

# libcaca Reference Manual

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## 1 libcaca Documentation

### 1.1 Introduction

*libcaca* is a graphics library that outputs text instead of pixels, so that it can work on older video cards or text terminals. It is not unlike the famous AALib library. *libcaca* can use almost any virtual terminal to work, thus it should work on all Unix systems (including Mac OS X) using either the slang library or the ncurses library, on DOS using the conio library, and on Windows systems using either slang or ncurses (through Cygwin emulation) or conio. There is also a native X11 driver, and an OpenGL driver (through freeglut) that does not require a text terminal. For machines without a screen, the raw driver can be used to send the output to another machine, using for instance cacaserver.

*libcaca* is free software, released under the Do What The Fuck You Want To Public License. This ensures that no one, not even the *libcaca* developers, will ever have anything to say about what you do with the software. It used to be licensed under the GNU Lesser General Public License, but that was not free enough.

### 1.2 Developer's documentation

*libcaca* relies on a low-level, device independent library, called *libcucul*. *libcucul* can be used alone as a simple ASCII and/or Unicode compositing canvas.

The complete *libcucul* and *libcaca* programming interface is available from the following headers:

- [cucul.h](#)
- [caca.h](#)

Some other topics are covered by specific sections:

- [A libcucul and libcaca tutorial](#)
- [Migrating from libcaca 0.x to the 1.0 API](#)

There is also information specially targeted at *libcaca* developers:

- [The libcaca font format \(version 1\)](#)
- [The libcaca canvas format \(version 1\)](#)
- [Coding style](#)

## 1.3 User's documentation

- [Environment variables](#)

## 1.4 Misc

- [News](#)
- [Authors](#)
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## 1.5 License

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# 2 libcaca Module Documentation

## 2.1 libcucul attribute definitions

### Defines

- #define [CUCUL\\_BLACK](#) 0x00
- #define [CUCUL\\_BLUE](#) 0x01
- #define [CUCUL\\_GREEN](#) 0x02
- #define [CUCUL\\_CYAN](#) 0x03
- #define [CUCUL\\_RED](#) 0x04
- #define [CUCUL\\_MAGENTA](#) 0x05
- #define [CUCUL\\_BROWN](#) 0x06
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTGRAY](#) 0x07
- #define [CUCUL\\_DARKGRAY](#) 0x08
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTBLUE](#) 0x09
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTGREEN](#) 0x0a
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTCYAN](#) 0x0b
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTRED](#) 0x0c
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTMAGENTA](#) 0x0d
- #define [CUCUL\\_YELLOW](#) 0x0e
- #define [CUCUL\\_WHITE](#) 0x0f
- #define [CUCUL\\_DEFAULT](#) 0x10
- #define [CUCUL\\_TRANSPARENT](#) 0x20
- #define [CUCUL\\_BOLD](#) 0x01
- #define [CUCUL\\_ITALICS](#) 0x02
- #define [CUCUL\\_UNDERLINE](#) 0x04
- #define [CUCUL\\_BLINK](#) 0x08

### 2.1.1 Detailed Description

Colours and styles that can be used with [cucul\\_set\\_attr\(\)](#).

### 2.1.2 Define Documentation

#### 2.1.2.1 **#define CUCUL\_BLACK 0x00**

The colour index for black.

#### 2.1.2.2 **#define CUCUL\_BLUE 0x01**

The colour index for blue.

#### 2.1.2.3 **#define CUCUL\_GREEN 0x02**

The colour index for green.

#### 2.1.2.4 **#define CUCUL\_CYAN 0x03**

The colour index for cyan.

#### 2.1.2.5 **#define CUCUL\_RED 0x04**

The colour index for red.

#### 2.1.2.6 **#define CUCUL\_MAGENTA 0x05**

The colour index for magenta.

#### 2.1.2.7 **#define CUCUL\_BROWN 0x06**

The colour index for brown.

#### 2.1.2.8 **#define CUCUL\_LIGHTGRAY 0x07**

The colour index for light gray.

#### 2.1.2.9 **#define CUCUL\_DARKGRAY 0x08**

The colour index for dark gray.

#### 2.1.2.10 **#define CUCUL\_LIGHTBLUE 0x09**

The colour index for blue.

#### 2.1.2.11 **#define CUCUL\_LIGHTGREEN 0x0a**

The colour index for light green.

**2.1.2.12 #define CUCUL\_LIGHTCYAN 0x0b**

The colour index for light cyan.

**2.1.2.13 #define CUCUL\_LIGHTRED 0x0c**

The colour index for light red.

**2.1.2.14 #define CUCUL\_LIGHTMAGENTA 0x0d**

The colour index for light magenta.

**2.1.2.15 #define CUCUL\_YELLOW 0x0e**

The colour index for yellow.

**2.1.2.16 #define CUCUL\_WHITE 0x0f**

The colour index for white.

**2.1.2.17 #define CUCUL\_DEFAULT 0x10**

The output driver's default colour.

**2.1.2.18 #define CUCUL\_TRANSPARENT 0x20**

The transparent colour.

**2.1.2.19 #define CUCUL\_BOLD 0x01**

The style mask for bold.

**2.1.2.20 #define CUCUL\_ITALICS 0x02**

The style mask for italics.

**2.1.2.21 #define CUCUL\_UNDERLINE 0x04**

The style mask for underline.

**2.1.2.22 #define CUCUL\_BLINK 0x08**

The style mask for blink.

**2.2 libcucul basic functions****Functions**

- [cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \* [cucul\\_create\\_canvas](#) (unsigned int, unsigned int)  
*Initialise a libcucul canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_canvas\\_size](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, unsigned int, unsigned int)

*Resize a canvas.*

- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_canvas\\_width](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)

*Get the canvas width.*

- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_canvas\\_height](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)

*Get the canvas height.*

- int [cucul\\_free\\_canvas](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)

*Uninitialise libcucul.*

- int [cucul\\_rand](#) (int, int)

*Generate a random integer within a range.*

### 2.2.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide the basic *libcaca* routines for library initialisation, system information retrieval and configuration.

### 2.2.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.2.2.1 [cucul\\_canvas\\_t\\*](#) [cucul\\_create\\_canvas](#) (unsigned int *width*, unsigned int *height*)

Initialise internal *libcucul* structures and the backend that will be used for subsequent graphical operations. It must be the first *libcucul* function to be called in a function. [cucul\\_free\\_canvas\(\)](#) should be called at the end of the program to free all allocated resources.

Both the cursor and the canvas' handle are initialised at the top-left corner.

If an error occurs, NULL is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- ENOMEM Not enough memory for the requested canvas size.

#### Parameters:

***width*** The desired canvas width

***height*** The desired canvas height

#### Returns:

A libcucul canvas handle upon success, NULL if an error occurred.

#### 2.2.2.2 int [cucul\\_set\\_canvas\\_size](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \* *cv*, unsigned int *width*, unsigned int *height*)

Set the canvas' width and height, in character cells.

The contents of the canvas are preserved to the extent of the new canvas size. Newly allocated character cells at the right and/or at the bottom of the canvas are filled with spaces.

It is an error to try to resize the canvas if an output driver has been attached to the canvas using [caca\\_create\\_display\(\)](#). You need to remove the output driver using [caca\\_free\\_display\(\)](#) before you can change the canvas size again. However, the caca output driver can cause a canvas resize through user interaction. See the [caca\\_event\(\)](#) documentation for more about this.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EBUSY** The canvas is in use by a display driver and cannot be resized.
- **ENOMEM** Not enough memory for the requested canvas size. If this happens, the canvas handle becomes invalid and should not be used.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A libcucul canvas  
*width* The desired canvas width  
*height* The desired canvas height

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.2.2.3 unsigned int cucul\_get\_canvas\_width (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv)**

Return the current canvas' width, in character cells.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A libcucul canvas

**Returns:**

The canvas width.

**2.2.2.4 unsigned int cucul\_get\_canvas\_height (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv)**

Returns the current canvas' height, in character cells.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A libcucul canvas

**Returns:**

The canvas height.

**2.2.2.5 int cucul\_free\_canvas (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv)**

Free all resources allocated by [cucul\\_create\\_canvas\(\)](#). After this function has been called, no other *libcucul* functions may be used unless a new call to [cucul\\_create\\_canvas\(\)](#) is done.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EBUSY** The canvas is in use by a display driver and cannot be freed.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A libcucul canvas

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.2.2.6 int cucul\_rand (int *min*, int *max*)

Generate a random integer within the given range.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

- min* The lower bound of the integer range.
- max* The upper bound of the integer range.

#### Returns:

A random integer comprised between *min* and *max* - 1 (inclusive).

## 2.3 libcucul canvas drawing

### Defines

- #define CUCUL\_MAGIC\_FULLWIDTH 0x000ffffe

### Functions

- int cucul\_gotoxy (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int)  
*Set cursor position.*
- int cucul\_get\_cursor\_x (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Get X cursor position.*
- int cucul\_get\_cursor\_y (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Get Y cursor position.*
- int cucul\_put\_char (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Print an ASCII or Unicode character.*
- unsigned long int cucul\_get\_char (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int)  
*Get the Unicode character at the given coordinates.*
- int cucul\_put\_str (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, char const \*)  
*Print a string.*
- unsigned long int cucul\_get\_attr (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int)  
*Get the text attribute at the given coordinates.*
- int cucul\_set\_attr (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, unsigned long int)  
*Set the default character attribute.*
- int cucul\_put\_attr (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Set the character attribute at the given coordinates.*
- int cucul\_set\_color\_ansi (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, unsigned char, unsigned char)  
*Set the default colour pair for text (ANSI version).*



- `int cucul_set_color_argb (cucul_canvas_t *, unsigned int, unsigned int)`  
*Set the default colour pair for text (truecolor version).*
- `int cucul_printf (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, char const *,...)`  
*Print a formatted string.*
- `int cucul_clear_canvas (cucul_canvas_t *)`  
*Clear the canvas.*
- `int cucul_set_canvas_handle (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int)`  
*Set cursor handle.*
- `int cucul_get_canvas_handle_x (cucul_canvas_t *)`  
*Get X handle position.*
- `int cucul_get_canvas_handle_y (cucul_canvas_t *)`  
*Get Y handle position.*
- `int cucul_blit (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, cucul_canvas_t const *, cucul_canvas_t const *)`  
*Blit a canvas onto another one.*
- `int cucul_set_canvas_boundaries (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, unsigned int, unsigned int)`  
*Set a canvas' new boundaries.*

### 2.3.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide low-level character printing routines and higher level graphics functions.

### 2.3.2 Define Documentation

#### 2.3.2.1 `#define CUCUL_MAGIC_FULLWIDTH 0x000ffffe`

Used to indicate that the previous character was a fullwidth glyph.

### 2.3.3 Function Documentation

#### 2.3.3.1 `int cucul_gotoxy (cucul_canvas_t * cv, int x, int y)`

Put the cursor at the given coordinates. Functions making use of the cursor will use the new values. Setting the cursor position outside the canvas is legal but the cursor will not be shown.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* X cursor coordinate.
- y* Y cursor coordinate.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.2 int cucul\_get\_cursor\_x (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv)**

Retrieve the X coordinate of the cursor's position.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.

**Returns:**

The cursor's X coordinate.

**2.3.3.3 int cucul\_get\_cursor\_y (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv)**

Retrieve the Y coordinate of the cursor's position.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.

**Returns:**

The cursor's Y coordinate.

**2.3.3.4 int cucul\_put\_char (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y, unsigned long int ch)**

Print an ASCII or Unicode character at the given coordinates, using the default foreground and background colour values.

If the coordinates are outside the canvas boundaries, nothing is printed. If a fullwidth Unicode character gets overwritten, its remaining visible parts are replaced with spaces. If the canvas' boundaries would split the fullwidth character in two, a space is printed instead.

The behaviour when printing non-printable characters or invalid UTF-32 characters is undefined. To print a sequence of bytes forming an UTF-8 character instead of an UTF-32 character, use the [cucul\\_put\\_str\(\)](#) function.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.

*x* X coordinate.

*y* Y coordinate.

*ch* The character to print.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.5 unsigned long int cucul\_get\_char (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y)**

Get the ASCII or Unicode value of the character at the given coordinates. If the value is less or equal to 127 (0x7f), the character can be printed as ASCII. Otherwise, it must be handled as a UTF-32 value.

If the coordinates are outside the canvas boundaries, a space (0x20) is returned.

A special exception is when CUCUL\_MAGIC\_FULLWIDTH is returned. This value is guaranteed not to be a valid Unicode character, and indicates that the character at the left of the requested one is a fullwidth character.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* X coordinate.
- y* Y coordinate.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.6 int cucul\_put\_str (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y, char const \* s)**

Print an UTF-8 string at the given coordinates, using the default foreground and background values. The coordinates may be outside the canvas boundaries (eg. a negative Y coordinate) and the string will be cropped accordingly if it is too long.

See [cucul\\_put\\_char\(\)](#) for more information on how fullwidth characters are handled when overwriting each other or at the canvas' boundaries.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* X coordinate.
- y* Y coordinate.
- s* The string to print.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.7 unsigned long int cucul\_get\_attr (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y)**

Get the internal *libcucul* attribute value of the character at the given coordinates. The attribute value has 32 significant bits, organised as follows from MSB to LSB:

- 3 bits for the background alpha
- 4 bits for the background red component
- 4 bits for the background green component
- 3 bits for the background blue component

- 3 bits for the foreground alpha
- 4 bits for the foreground red component
- 4 bits for the foreground green component
- 3 bits for the foreground blue component
- 4 bits for the bold, italics, underline and blink flags

If the coordinates are outside the canvas boundaries, the current attribute is returned.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* X coordinate.
- y* Y coordinate.

**Returns:**

The requested attribute.

### 2.3.3.8 int cucul\_set\_attr (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, unsigned long int *attr*)

Set the default character attribute for drawing. Attributes define foreground and background colour, transparency, bold, italics and underline styles, as well as blink. String functions such as `caca_printf()` and graphical primitive functions such as `caca_draw_line()` will use this attribute.

The value of *attr* is either:

- a 32-bit integer as returned by `cucul_get_attr()`, in which case it also contains colour information,
- a combination (bitwise OR) of style values (`CUCUL_UNDERLINE`, `CUCUL_BLINK`, `CUCUL_BOLD` and `CUCUL_ITALICS`), in which case setting the attribute does not modify the current colour information.

To retrieve the current attribute value, use `cucul_get_attr(-1,-1)`.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- `EINVAL` The attribute value is out of the 32-bit range.

**Parameters:**

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- attr* The requested attribute value.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.3.3.9 int cucul\_put\_attr (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, int *x*, int *y*, unsigned long int *attr*)

Set the character attribute, without changing the character's value. If the character at the given coordinates is a fullwidth character, both cells' attributes are replaced.

The value of *attr* is either:

- a 32-bit integer as returned by [cucul\\_get\\_attr\(\)](#), in which case it also contains colour information,
- a combination (bitwise OR) of style values (*CUCUL\_UNDERLINE*, *CUCUL\_BLINK*, *CUCUL\_BOLD* and *CUCUL\_ITALICS*), in which case setting the attribute does not modify the current colour information.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** The attribute value is out of the 32-bit range.

#### Parameters:

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* X coordinate.
- y* Y coordinate.
- attr* The requested attribute value.

#### Returns:

- 0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.3.3.10 int cucul\_set\_color\_ansi (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, unsigned char *fg*, unsigned char *bg*)

Set the default ANSI colour pair for text drawing. String functions such as [caca\\_printf\(\)](#) and graphical primitive functions such as [caca\\_draw\\_line\(\)](#) will use these attributes.

Color values are those defined in [cucul.h](#), such as *CUCUL\_RED* or *CUCUL\_TRANSPARENT*.

If an error occurs, 0 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** At least one of the colour values is invalid.

#### Parameters:

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- fg* The requested ANSI foreground colour.
- bg* The requested ANSI background colour.

#### Returns:

- 0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.3.3.11 int cucul\_set\_color\_argb (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, unsigned int *fg*, unsigned int *bg*)

Set the default ARGB colour pair for text drawing. String functions such as [caca\\_printf\(\)](#) and graphical primitive functions such as [caca\\_draw\\_line\(\)](#) will use these attributes.

Colors are 16-bit ARGB values, each component being coded on 4 bits. For instance, 0xf088 is solid dark cyan (A=15 R=0 G=8 B=8), and 0x8fff is white with 50% alpha (A=8 R=15 G=15 B=15).

If an error occurs, 0 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- `EINVAL` At least one of the colour values is invalid.

**Parameters:**

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*fg* The requested ARGB foreground colour.  
*bg* The requested ARGB background colour.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.3.3.12 int cucul\_printf (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y, char const \* format, ...)**

Format a string at the given coordinates, using the default foreground and background values. The coordinates may be outside the canvas boundaries (eg. a negative Y coordinate) and the string will be cropped accordingly if it is too long. The syntax of the format string is the same as for the C `printf()` function.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*x* X coordinate.  
*y* Y coordinate.  
*format* The format string to print.  
... Arguments to the format string.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.13 int cucul\_clear\_canvas (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv)**

Clear the canvas using the current foreground and background colours.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* The canvas to clear.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.14 int cucul\_set\_canvas\_handle (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y)**

Set the canvas' handle. Blitting functions will use the handle value to put the canvas at the proper coordinates.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*x* X handle coordinate.  
*y* Y handle coordinate.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.3.3.15 int cucul\_get\_canvas\_handle\_x (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)**

Retrieve the X coordinate of the canvas' handle.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.

**Returns:**

The canvas' handle's X coordinate.

**2.3.3.16 int cucul\_get\_canvas\_handle\_y (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)**

Retrieve the Y coordinate of the canvas' handle.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.

**Returns:**

The canvas' handle's Y coordinate.

**2.3.3.17 int cucul\_blit (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *dst*, int *x*, int *y*, cucul\_canvas\_t const \* *src*, cucul\_canvas\_t const \* *mask*)**

Blit a canvas onto another one at the given coordinates. An optional mask canvas can be used.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** A mask was specified but the mask size and source canvas size do not match.

**Parameters:**

*dst* The destination canvas.  
*x* X coordinate.  
*y* Y coordinate.  
*src* The source canvas.  
*mask* The mask canvas.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.3.3.18 int cucul\_set\_canvas\_boundaries (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, int *x*, int *y*, unsigned int *w*, unsigned int *h*)

Set new boundaries for a canvas. This function can be used to crop a canvas, to expand it or for combinations of both actions. All frames are affected by this function.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EBUSY** The canvas is in use by a display driver and cannot be resized.
- **ENOMEM** Not enough memory for the requested canvas size. If this happens, the canvas handle becomes invalid and should not be used.

#### Parameters:

- cv* The canvas to crop.
- x* X coordinate of the top-left corner.
- y* Y coordinate of the top-left corner.
- w* The width of the cropped area.
- h* The height of the cropped area.

#### Returns:

- 0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

## 2.4 libcucul canvas transformation

### Functions

- int [cucul\\_invert](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Invert a canvas' colours.*
- int [cucul\\_flip](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Flip a canvas horizontally.*
- int [cucul\\_flop](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Flip a canvas vertically.*
- int [cucul\\_rotate](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Rotate a canvas.*

#### 2.4.1 Detailed Description

These functions perform horizontal and vertical canvas flipping.

#### 2.4.2 Function Documentation

##### 2.4.2.1 int cucul\_invert (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)

Invert a canvas' colours (black becomes white, red becomes cyan, etc.) without changing the characters in it.

This function never fails.



**Parameters:**

*cv* The canvas to invert.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.4.2.2 int cucul\_flip (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)**

Flip a canvas horizontally, choosing characters that look like the mirrored version wherever possible. Some characters will stay unchanged by the process, but the operation is guaranteed to be involutive: performing it again gives back the original canvas.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The canvas to flip.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.4.2.3 int cucul\_flop (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)**

Flip a canvas vertically, choosing characters that look like the mirrored version wherever possible. Some characters will stay unchanged by the process, but the operation is guaranteed to be involutive: performing it again gives back the original canvas.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The canvas to flop.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.4.2.4 int cucul\_rotate (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)**

Apply a 180-degree transformation to a canvas, choosing characters that look like the upside-down version wherever possible. Some characters will stay unchanged by the process, but the operation is guaranteed to be involutive: performing it again gives back the original canvas.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The canvas to rotate.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

## 2.5 libcucul attribute conversions

### Functions

- unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi` (unsigned long int)  
*Get DOS ANSI information from attribute.*
- unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi_fg` (unsigned long int)  
*Get ANSI foreground information from attribute.*
- unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi_bg` (unsigned long int)  
*Get ANSI background information from attribute.*

### 2.5.1 Detailed Description

These functions perform conversions between attribute values.

### 2.5.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.5.2.1 unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi` (unsigned long int *attr*)

Get the ANSI colour pair for a given attribute. The returned value is an 8-bit value whose higher 4 bits are the background colour and lower 4 bits are the foreground colour.

If the attribute has ARGB colours, the nearest colour is used. Special attributes such as `CUCUL_DEFAULT` and `CUCUL_TRANSPARENT` are not handled and are both replaced with `CUCUL_LIGHTGRAY` for the foreground colour and `CUCUL_BLACK` for the background colour.

This function never fails. If the attribute value is outside the expected 32-bit range, higher order bits are simply ignored.

#### Parameters:

*attr* The requested attribute value.

#### Returns:

The corresponding DOS ANSI value.

#### 2.5.2.2 unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi_fg` (unsigned long int *attr*)

Get the ANSI foreground colour value for a given attribute. The returned value is either one of the `CUCUL_RED`, `CUCUL_BLACK` etc. predefined colours, or the special value `CUCUL_DEFAULT` meaning the media's default foreground value, or the special value `CUCUL_TRANSPARENT`.

If the attribute has ARGB colours, the nearest colour is returned.

This function never fails. If the attribute value is outside the expected 32-bit range, higher order bits are simply ignored.

#### Parameters:

*attr* The requested attribute value.

**Returns:**

The corresponding ANSI foreground value.

**2.5.2.3 unsigned char cucul\_attr\_to\_ansi\_bg (unsigned long int attr)**

Get the ANSI background colour value for a given attribute. The returned value is either one of the *CUCUL\_RED*, *CUCUL\_BLACK* etc. predefined colours, or the special value *CUCUL\_DEFAULT* meaning the media's default background value, or the special value *CUCUL\_TRANSPARENT*.

If the attribute has ARGB colours, the nearest colour is returned.

This function never fails. If the attribute value is outside the expected 32-bit range, higher order bits are simply ignored.

**Parameters:**

*attr* The requested attribute value.

**Returns:**

The corresponding ANSI background value.

**2.6 libcucul character set conversions****Functions**

- unsigned long int [cucul\\_utf8\\_to\\_utf32](#) (char const \*, unsigned int \*)  
*Convert a UTF-8 character to UTF-32.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_utf32\\_to\\_utf8](#) (char \*, unsigned long int)  
*Convert a UTF-32 character to UTF-8.*
- unsigned char [cucul\\_utf32\\_to\\_cp437](#) (unsigned long int)  
*Convert a UTF-32 character to CP437.*
- unsigned long int [cucul\\_cp437\\_to\\_utf32](#) (unsigned char)  
*Convert a CP437 character to UTF-32.*
- int [cucul\\_utf32\\_is\\_fullwidth](#) (unsigned long int)  
*Tell whether a UTF-32 character is fullwidth.*

**2.6.1 Detailed Description**

These functions perform conversions between usual character sets.

**2.6.2 Function Documentation****2.6.2.1 unsigned long int cucul\_utf8\_to\_utf32 (char const \* s, unsigned int \* read)**

Convert a UTF-8 character read from a string and return its value in the UTF-32 character set. If the second argument is not null, the total number of read bytes is written in it.

If a null byte was reached before the expected end of the UTF-8 sequence, this function returns zero and the number of read bytes is set to zero.

This function never fails, but its behaviour with illegal UTF-8 sequences is undefined.

**Parameters:**

*s* A string containing the UTF-8 character.

*read* A pointer to an unsigned integer to store the number of bytes in the character, or NULL.

**Returns:**

The corresponding UTF-32 character, or zero if the character is incomplete.

**2.6.2.2 unsigned int cucul\_utf32\_to\_utf8 (char \* *buf*, unsigned long int *ch*)**

Convert a UTF-32 character read from a string and write its value in the UTF-8 character set into the given buffer.

This function never fails, but its behaviour with illegal UTF-32 characters is undefined.

**Parameters:**

*buf* A pointer to a character buffer where the UTF-8 sequence will be written.

*ch* The UTF-32 character.

**Returns:**

The number of bytes written.

**2.6.2.3 unsigned char cucul\_utf32\_to\_cp437 (unsigned long int *ch*)**

Convert a UTF-32 character read from a string and return its value in the CP437 character set, or "?" if the character has no equivalent.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*ch* The UTF-32 character.

**Returns:**

The corresponding CP437 character, or "?" if not representable.

**2.6.2.4 unsigned long int cucul\_cp437\_to\_utf32 (unsigned char *ch*)**

Convert a CP437 character read from a string and return its value in the UTF-32 character set, or zero if the character is a CP437 control character.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*ch* The CP437 character.

**Returns:**

The corresponding UTF-32 character, or zero if not representable.

**2.6.2.5 int cucul\_utf32\_is\_fullwidth (unsigned long int *ch*)**

Check whether the given UTF-32 character should be printed at twice the normal width (fullwidth characters). If the character is unknown or if its status cannot be decided, it is treated as a standard-width character.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*ch* The UTF-32 character.

**Returns:**

1 if the character is fullwidth, 0 otherwise.

**2.7 libcucul primitives drawing****Functions**

- int [cucul\\_draw\\_line](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a line on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_polyline](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int const x[ ], int const y[ ], int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a polyline.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_line](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin line on the canvas, using ASCII art.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_polyline](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int const x[ ], int const y[ ], int)  
*Draw an ASCII art thin polyline.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_circle](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a circle on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_ellipse](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw an ellipse on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_ellipse](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin ellipse on the canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_fill\\_ellipse](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Fill an ellipse on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_box](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a box on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_box](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin box on the canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_cp437\\_box](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a box on the canvas using CP437 characters.*

- `int cucul_fill_box (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)`  
*Fill a box on the canvas using the given character.*
- `int cucul_draw_triangle (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)`  
*Draw a triangle on the canvas using the given character.*
- `int cucul_draw_thin_triangle (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, int, int, int, int)`  
*Draw a thin triangle on the canvas.*
- `int cucul_fill_triangle (cucul_canvas_t *, int, int, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)`  
*Fill a triangle on the canvas using the given character.*

### 2.7.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide routines for primitive drawing, such as lines, boxes, triangles and ellipses.

### 2.7.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.7.2.1 `int cucul_draw_line (cucul_canvas_t * cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2, unsigned long int ch)`

This function never fails.

##### Parameters:

- cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x1* X coordinate of the first point.
- y1* Y coordinate of the first point.
- x2* X coordinate of the second point.
- y2* Y coordinate of the second point.
- ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the line.

##### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

#### 2.7.2.2 `int cucul_draw_polyline (cucul_canvas_t * cv, int const x[], int const y[], int n, unsigned long int ch)`

Draw a plyline on the canvas using the given character and coordinate arrays. The first and last points are not connected, hence in order to draw a polygon you need to specify the starting point at the end of the list as well.

This function never fails.

##### Parameters:

- cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* Array of X coordinates. Must have  $n + 1$  elements.
- y* Array of Y coordinates. Must have  $n + 1$  elements.

*n* Number of lines to draw.

*ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the lines.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.3 int cucul\_draw\_thin\_line (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.

*x1* X coordinate of the first point.

*y1* Y coordinate of the first point.

*x2* X coordinate of the second point.

*y2* Y coordinate of the second point.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.4 int cucul\_draw\_thin\_polyline (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int const x[], int const y[], int n)**

Draw a thin polyline on the canvas using the given coordinate arrays and with ASCII art. The first and last points are not connected, so in order to draw a polygon you need to specify the starting point at the end of the list as well.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.

*x* Array of X coordinates. Must have  $n + 1$  elements.

*y* Array of Y coordinates. Must have  $n + 1$  elements.

*n* Number of lines to draw.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.5 int cucul\_draw\_circle (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x, int y, int r, unsigned long int ch)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.

*x* Center X coordinate.

*y* Center Y coordinate.

*r* Circle radius.

*ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the circle outline.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.6 int cucul\_draw\_ellipse (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int xo, int yo, int a, int b, unsigned long int ch)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.

*xo* Center X coordinate.

*yo* Center Y coordinate.

*a* Ellipse X radius.

*b* Ellipse Y radius.

*ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the ellipse outline.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.7 int cucul\_draw\_thin\_ellipse (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int xo, int yo, int a, int b)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.

*xo* Center X coordinate.

*yo* Center Y coordinate.

*a* Ellipse X radius.

*b* Ellipse Y radius.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.8 int cucul\_fill\_ellipse (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int xo, int yo, int a, int b, unsigned long int ch)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.

*xo* Center X coordinate.

*yo* Center Y coordinate.



- a* Ellipse X radius.
- b* Ellipse Y radius.
- ch* UTF-32 character to be used to fill the ellipse.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.9 int cucul\_draw\_box (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2, unsigned long int ch)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x1* X coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.
- y1* Y coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.
- x2* X coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.
- y2* Y coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.
- ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the box.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.10 int cucul\_draw\_thin\_box (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x1* X coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.
- y1* Y coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.
- x2* X coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.
- y2* Y coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.11 int cucul\_draw\_cp437\_box (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x1* X coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.

*y1* Y coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.  
*x2* X coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.  
*y2* Y coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.12 int cucul\_fill\_box (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, int *x1*, int *y1*, int *x2*, int *y2*, unsigned long int *ch*)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*x1* X coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.  
*y1* Y coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box.  
*x2* X coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.  
*y2* Y coordinate of the lower-right corner of the box.  
*ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the box.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.13 int cucul\_draw\_triangle (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, int *x1*, int *y1*, int *x2*, int *y2*, int *x3*, int *y3*, unsigned long int *ch*)**

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*x1* X coordinate of the first point.  
*y1* Y coordinate of the first point.  
*x2* X coordinate of the second point.  
*y2* Y coordinate of the second point.  
*x3* X coordinate of the third point.  
*y3* Y coordinate of the third point.  
*ch* UTF-32 character to be used to draw the triangle outline.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.14** `int cucul_draw_thin_triangle (cucul_canvas_t * cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2, int x3, int y3)`

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*x1* X coordinate of the first point.  
*y1* Y coordinate of the first point.  
*x2* X coordinate of the second point.  
*y2* Y coordinate of the second point.  
*x3* X coordinate of the third point.  
*y3* Y coordinate of the third point.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

**2.7.2.15** `int cucul_fill_triangle (cucul_canvas_t * cv, int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2, int x3, int y3, unsigned long int ch)`

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*cv* The handle to the libcucul canvas.  
*x1* X coordinate of the first point.  
*y1* Y coordinate of the first point.  
*x2* X coordinate of the second point.  
*y2* Y coordinate of the second point.  
*x3* X coordinate of the third point.  
*y3* Y coordinate of the third point.  
*ch* UTF-32 character to be used to fill the triangle.

**Returns:**

This function always returns 0.

## 2.8 libcucul canvas frame handling

### Functions

- unsigned int `cucul_get_frame_count (cucul_canvas_t *)`  
*Get the number of frames in a canvas.*
- int `cucul_set_frame (cucul_canvas_t *, unsigned int)`  
*Activate a given canvas frame.*
- char const \* `cucul_get_frame_name (cucul_canvas_t *)`

*Get the current frame's name.*

- int `cucul_set_frame_name` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, char const \*)

*Set the current frame's name.*

- int `cucul_create_frame` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, unsigned int)

*Add a frame to a canvas.*

- int `cucul_free_frame` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, unsigned int)

*Remove a frame from a canvas.*

### 2.8.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide high level routines for canvas frame insertion, removal, copying etc.

### 2.8.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.8.2.1 unsigned int `cucul_get_frame_count` (`cucul_canvas_t * cv`)

Return the current canvas' frame count.

This function never fails.

##### Parameters:

*cv* A libcucul canvas

##### Returns:

The frame count

#### 2.8.2.2 int `cucul_set_frame` (`cucul_canvas_t * cv`, unsigned int *id*)

Set the active canvas frame. All subsequent drawing operations will be performed on that frame. The current painting context set by `cucul_set_attr()` is inherited.

If the frame index is outside the canvas' frame range, nothing happens.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- `EINVAL` Requested frame is out of range.

##### Parameters:

*cv* A libcucul canvas

*id* The canvas frame to activate

##### Returns:

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.8.2.3 char const\* cucul\_get\_frame\_name (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*)

Return the current frame's name. The returned string is valid until the frame is deleted or [cucul\\_set\\_frame\\_name\(\)](#) is called to change the frame name again.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*cv* A libcucul canvas.

#### Returns:

The current frame's name.

### 2.8.2.4 int cucul\_set\_frame\_name (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, char const \* *name*)

Set the current frame's name. Upon creation, a frame has a default name of "frame#xxxxxxx" where xxxxxx is a self-incrementing hexadecimal number.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- ENOMEM Not enough memory to allocate new frame.

#### Parameters:

*cv* A libcucul canvas.

*name* The name to give to the current frame.

#### Returns:

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

### 2.8.2.5 int cucul\_create\_frame (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, unsigned int *id*)

Create a new frame within the given canvas. Its contents and attributes are copied from the currently active frame.

The frame index indicates where the frame should be inserted. Valid values range from 0 to the current canvas frame count. If the frame index is greater than or equals the current canvas frame count, the new frame is appended at the end of the canvas.

The active frame does not change, but its index may be renumbered due to the insertion.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- ENOMEM Not enough memory to allocate new frame.

#### Parameters:

*cv* A libcucul canvas

*id* The index where to insert the new frame

#### Returns:

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.8.2.6 int cucul\_free\_frame (cucul\_canvas\_t \* cv, unsigned int id)**

Delete a frame from a given canvas.

The frame index indicates the frame to delete. Valid values range from 0 to the current canvas frame count minus 1. If the frame index is greater than or equals the current canvas frame count, the last frame is deleted.

If the active frame is deleted, frame 0 becomes the new active frame. Otherwise, the active frame does not change, but its index may be renumbered due to the deletion.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- `EINVAL` Requested frame is out of range, or attempt to delete the last frame of the canvas.

**Parameters:**

*cv* A libcucul canvas

*id* The index of the frame to delete

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.9 libcucul bitmap dithering****Functions**

- `cucul_dither_t * cucul_create_dither` (unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned long int, unsigned long int, unsigned long int, unsigned long int)  
*Create an internal dither object.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_palette` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, unsigned int r[ ], unsigned int g[ ], unsigned int b[ ], unsigned int a[ ])  
*Set the palette of an 8bpp dither object.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_brightness` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, float)  
*Set the brightness of a dither object.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_gamma` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, float)  
*Set the gamma of a dither object.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_contrast` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, float)  
*Set the contrast of a dither object.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_invert` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, int)  
*Invert colors of dither.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_antialias` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, char const \*)  
*Set dither antialiasing.*
- `char const *const * cucul_get_dither_antialias_list` (cucul\_dither\_t const \*)  
*Get available antialiasing methods.*
- `int cucul_set_dither_color` (cucul\_dither\_t \*, char const \*)

*Choose colours used for dithering.*

- `char const *const * cucul\_get\_dither\_color\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const *)`

*Get available colour modes.*

- `int cucul\_set\_dither\_charset (cucul\_dither\_t *, char const *)`

*Choose characters used for dithering.*

- `char const *const * cucul\_get\_dither\_charset\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const *)`

*Get available dither character sets.*

- `int cucul\_set\_dither\_mode (cucul\_dither\_t *, char const *)`

*Set dithering method.*

- `char const *const * cucul\_get\_dither\_mode\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const *)`

*Get dithering methods.*

- `int cucul\_dither\_bitmap (cucul\_canvas\_t *, int, int, int, int, cucul\_dither\_t const *, void *)`

*Dither a bitmap on the canvas.*

- `int cucul\_free\_dither (cucul\_dither\_t *)`

*Free the memory associated with a dither.*

### 2.9.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide high level routines for dither allocation and rendering.

### 2.9.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.9.2.1 `cucul_dither_t* cucul_create_dither (unsigned int bpp, unsigned int w, unsigned int h, unsigned int pitch, unsigned long int rmask, unsigned long int gmask, unsigned long int bmask, unsigned long int amask)`

Create a dither structure from its coordinates (depth, width, height and pitch) and pixel mask values. If the depth is 8 bits per pixel, the mask values are ignored and the colour palette should be set using the [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_palette\(\)](#) function. For depths greater than 8 bits per pixel, a zero alpha mask causes the alpha values to be ignored.

If an error occurs, NULL is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Requested width, height, pitch or bits per pixel value was invalid.
- **ENOMEM** Not enough memory to allocate dither structure.

#### Parameters:

***bpp*** Bitmap depth in bits per pixel.

***w*** Bitmap width in pixels.

***h*** Bitmap height in pixels.

***pitch*** Bitmap pitch in bytes.

***rmask*** Bitmask for red values.  
***gmask*** Bitmask for green values.  
***bmask*** Bitmask for blue values.  
***amask*** Bitmask for alpha values.

**Returns:**

Dither object upon success, NULL if an error occurred.

**2.9.2.2 int cucul\_set\_dither\_palette (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, unsigned int *red*[], unsigned int *green*[], unsigned int *blue*[], unsigned int *alpha*[])**

Set the palette of an 8 bits per pixel bitmap. Values should be between 0 and 4095 (0xffff).

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Dither bits per pixel value is not 8, or one of the pixel values was outside the range 0 - 4095.

**Parameters:**

***d*** Dither object.  
***red*** Array of 256 red values.  
***green*** Array of 256 green values.  
***blue*** Array of 256 blue values.  
***alpha*** Array of 256 alpha values.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.9.2.3 int cucul\_set\_dither\_brightness (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, float *brightness*)**

Set the brightness of dither.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Brightness value was out of range.

**Parameters:**

***d*** Dither object.  
***brightness*** brightness value.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.



#### 2.9.2.4 int cucul\_set\_dither\_gamma (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, float *gamma*)

Set the gamma of dither.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Gamma value was out of range.

##### Parameters:

*d* Dither object.

*gamma* Gamma value.

##### Returns:

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

#### 2.9.2.5 int cucul\_set\_dither\_contrast (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, float *contrast*)

Set the contrast of dither.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Contrast value was out of range.

##### Parameters:

*d* Dither object.

*contrast* contrast value.

##### Returns:

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

#### 2.9.2.6 int cucul\_set\_dither\_invert (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, int *value*)

Invert colors of dither.

This function never fails.

##### Parameters:

*d* Dither object.

*value* 0 for normal behaviour, 1 for invert

##### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

#### 2.9.2.7 int cucul\_set\_dither\_antialias (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, char const \* *str*)

Tell the renderer whether to antialias the dither. Antialiasing smoothens the rendered image and avoids the commonly seen staircase effect.

- "none": no antialiasing.

- "prefilter" or "default": simple prefilter antialiasing. This is the default value.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Invalid antialiasing mode.

**Parameters:**

*d* Dither object.

*str* A string describing the antialiasing method that will be used for the dithering.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.9.2.8 char const\* const\* cucul\_get\_dither\_antialias\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const \* d)**

Return a list of available antialiasing methods for a given dither. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings, interleaving a string containing the internal value for the antialiasing method to be used with [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_antialias\(\)](#), and a string containing the natural language description for that antialiasing method.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*d* Dither object.

**Returns:**

An array of strings.

**2.9.2.9 int cucul\_set\_dither\_color (cucul\_dither\_t \* d, char const \* str)**

Tell the renderer which colours should be used to render the bitmap. Valid values for *str* are:

- "mono": use light gray on a black background.
- "gray": use white and two shades of gray on a black background.
- "8": use the 8 ANSI colours on a black background.
- "16": use the 16 ANSI colours on a black background.
- "fullgray": use black, white and two shades of gray for both the characters and the background.
- "full8": use the 8 ANSI colours for both the characters and the background.
- "full16" or "default": use the 16 ANSI colours for both the characters and the background. This is the default value.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **EINVAL** Invalid colour set.

**Parameters:**

- d* Dither object.
- str* A string describing the colour set that will be used for the dithering.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.9.2.10 char const\* const\* cucul\_get\_dither\_color\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const \* d)**

Return a list of available colour modes for a given dither. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings, interleaving a string containing the internal value for the colour mode, to be used with [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_color\(\)](#), and a string containing the natural language description for that colour mode.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

- d* Dither object.

**Returns:**

An array of strings.

**2.9.2.11 int cucul\_set\_dither\_charset (cucul\_dither\_t \* d, char const \* str)**

Tell the renderer which characters should be used to render the dither. Valid values for *str* are:

- "ascii" or "default": use only ASCII characters. This is the default value.
- "shades": use Unicode characters "U+2591 LIGHT SHADE", "U+2592 MEDIUM SHADE" and "U+2593 DARK SHADE". These characters are also present in the CP437 codepage available on DOS and VGA.
- "blocks": use Unicode quarter-cell block combinations. These characters are only found in the Unicode set.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- EINVAL Invalid character set.

**Parameters:**

- d* Dither object.
- str* A string describing the characters that need to be used for the dithering.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.9.2.12 char const\* const\* cucul\_get\_dither\_charset\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const \* *d*)**

Return a list of available character sets for a given dither. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings, interleaving a string containing the internal value for the character set, to be used with [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_charset\(\)](#), and a string containing the natural language description for that character set.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*d* Dither object.

**Returns:**

An array of strings.

**2.9.2.13 int cucul\_set\_dither\_mode (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*, char const \* *str*)**

Tell the renderer which dithering method should be used. Dithering is necessary because the picture being rendered has usually far more colours than the available palette. Valid values for *str* are:

- "none": no dithering is used, the nearest matching colour is used.
- "ordered2": use a 2x2 Bayer matrix for dithering.
- "ordered4": use a 4x4 Bayer matrix for dithering.
- "ordered8": use a 8x8 Bayer matrix for dithering.
- "random": use random dithering.
- "fstein": use Floyd-Steinberg dithering. This is the default value.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- EINVAL Unknown dithering mode.

**Parameters:**

*d* Dither object.

*str* A string describing the method that needs to be used for the dithering.

**Returns:**

0 in case of success, -1 if an error occurred.

**2.9.2.14 char const\* const\* cucul\_get\_dither\_mode\_list (cucul\_dither\_t const \* *d*)**

Return a list of available dithering methods for a given dither. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings, interleaving a string containing the internal value for the dithering method, to be used with [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_dithering\(\)](#), and a string containing the natural language description for that dithering method.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*d* Dither object.

**Returns:**

An array of strings.

### 2.9.2.15 int cucul\_dither\_bitmap (cucul\_canvas\_t \* *cv*, int *x*, int *y*, int *w*, int *h*, cucul\_dither\_t const \* *d*, void \* *pixels*)

Dither a bitmap at the given coordinates. The dither can be of any size and will be stretched to the text area.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

- cv* A handle to the libcucul canvas.
- x* X coordinate of the upper-left corner of the drawing area.
- y* Y coordinate of the upper-left corner of the drawing area.
- w* Width of the drawing area.
- h* Height of the drawing area.
- d* Dither object to be drawn.
- pixels* Bitmap's pixels.

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

### 2.9.2.16 int cucul\_free\_dither (cucul\_dither\_t \* *d*)

Free the memory allocated by [cucul\\_create\\_dither\(\)](#).

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

- d* Dither object.

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

## 2.10 libcucul font handling

### Functions

- [cucul\\_font\\_t \\* cucul\\_load\\_font](#) (void const \*, unsigned int)  
*Load a font from memory for future use.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_list](#) (void)  
*Get available builtin fonts.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_width](#) (cucul\_font\_t \*)  
*Get a font's standard glyph width.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_height](#) (cucul\_font\_t \*)  
*Get a font's standard glyph height.*
- unsigned long int const \* [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_blocks](#) (cucul\_font\_t \*)

*Get a font's list of supported glyphs.*

- int `cucul_render_canvas` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, `cucul_font_t *`, void \*, unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned int)

*Render the canvas onto an image buffer.*

- int `cucul_free_font` (`cucul_font_t *`)

*Free a font structure.*

### 2.10.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide font handling routines and high quality canvas to bitmap rendering.

### 2.10.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.10.2.1 `cucul_font_t* cucul_load_font (void const * data, unsigned int size)`

This function loads a font and returns a handle to its internal structure. The handle can then be used with `cucul_render_canvas()` for bitmap output.

Internal fonts can also be loaded: if *size* is set to 0, *data* must be a string containing the internal font name.

If *size* is non-zero, the *size* bytes of memory at address *data* are loaded as a font. This memory are must not be freed by the calling program until the font handle has been freed with `cucul_free_font()`.

If an error occurs, NULL is returned and `errno` is set accordingly:

- ENOENT Requested built-in font does not exist.
- EINVAL Invalid font data in memory area.
- ENOMEM Not enough memory to allocate font structure.

#### Parameters:

*data* The memory area containing the font or its name.

*size* The size of the memory area, or 0 if the font name is given.

#### Returns:

A font handle or NULL in case of error.

#### 2.10.2.2 `char const* const* cucul_get_font_list (void)`

Return a list of available builtin fonts. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings.

This function never fails.

#### Returns:

An array of strings.

### 2.10.2.3 unsigned int cucul\_get\_font\_width (cucul\_font\_t \*f)

Return the standard value for the current font's glyphs. Most glyphs in the font will have this width, except fullwidth characters.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*f* The font, as returned by [cucul\\_load\\_font\(\)](#)

#### Returns:

The standard glyph width.

### 2.10.2.4 unsigned int cucul\_get\_font\_height (cucul\_font\_t \*f)

Returns the standard value for the current font's glyphs. Most glyphs in the font will have this height.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*f* The font, as returned by [cucul\\_load\\_font\(\)](#)

#### Returns:

The standard glyph height.

### 2.10.2.5 unsigned long int const\* cucul\_get\_font\_blocks (cucul\_font\_t \*f)

This function returns the list of Unicode blocks supported by the given font. The list is a zero-terminated list of indices. Here is an example:

```
{
    0x0000, 0x0080,    // Basic latin: A, B, C, a, b, c
    0x0080, 0x0100,    // Latin-1 supplement: "A, 'e, ^u
    0x0530, 0x0590,    // Armenian
    0x0000, 0x0000,    // END
};
```

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*f* The font, as returned by [cucul\\_load\\_font\(\)](#)

#### Returns:

The list of Unicode blocks supported by the font.

### 2.10.2.6 int cucul\_render\_canvas (cucul\_canvas\_t \*cv, cucul\_font\_t \*f, void \*buf, unsigned int width, unsigned int height, unsigned int pitch)

This function renders the given canvas on an image buffer using a specific font. The pixel format is fixed (32-bit ARGB, 8 bits for each component).

The required image width can be computed using `cucul_get_canvas_width()` and `cucul_get_font_width()`. The required height can be computed using `cucul_get_canvas_height()` and `cucul_get_font_height()`.

Glyphs that do not fit in the image buffer are currently not rendered at all. They may be cropped instead in future versions.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*cv* The canvas to render  
*f* The font, as returned by `cucul_load_font()`  
*buf* The image buffer  
*width* The width (in pixels) of the image buffer  
*height* The height (in pixels) of the image buffer  
*pitch* The pitch (in bytes) of an image buffer line.

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

#### 2.10.2.7 int cucul\_free\_font (cucul\_font\_t \*f)

This function frees all data allocated by `cucul_load_font()`. The font structure is no longer usable by other libcucul functions. Once this function has returned, the memory area that was given to `cucul_load_font()` can be freed.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*f* The font, as returned by `cucul_load_font()`

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

## 2.11 libcucul importers/exporters from/to various formats

### Functions

- long int `cucul_import_memory` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, void const \*, unsigned long int, char const \*)  
*Import a memory buffer into a canvas.*
- long int `cucul_import_file` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, char const \*, char const \*)  
*Import a file into a canvas.*
- char const \*const \* `cucul_get_import_list` (void)  
*Get available import formats.*
- void \* `cucul_export_memory` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, char const \*, unsigned long int \*)  
*Export a canvas into a foreign format.*
- char const \*const \* `cucul_get_export_list` (void)  
*Get available export formats.*



### 2.11.1 Detailed Description

These functions import various file formats into a new canvas, or export the current canvas to various text formats.

### 2.11.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.11.2.1 `long int cucul_import_memory (cucul_canvas_t * cv, void const * data, unsigned long int len, char const * format)`

Import a memory buffer into the given libcucul canvas's current frame. The current frame is resized accordingly and its contents are replaced with the imported data.

Valid values for `format` are:

- `" "`: attempt to autodetect the file format.
- `"caca"`: import native libcaca files.
- `"text"`: import ASCII text files.
- `"ansi"`: import ANSI files.
- `"utf8"`: import UTF-8 files with ANSI colour codes.

The number of bytes read is returned. If the file format is valid, but not enough data was available, 0 is returned.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- `ENOMEM` Not enough memory to allocate canvas.
- `EINVAL` Invalid format requested.

#### Parameters:

- cv* A libcucul canvas in which to import the file.
- data* A memory area containing the data to be loaded into the canvas.
- len* The size in bytes of the memory area.
- format* A string describing the input format.

#### Returns:

The number of bytes read, or 0 if there was not enough data, or -1 if an error occurred.

#### 2.11.2.2 `long int cucul_import_file (cucul_canvas_t * cv, char const * filename, char const * format)`

Import a file into the given libcucul canvas's current frame. The current frame is resized accordingly and its contents are replaced with the imported data.

Valid values for `format` are:

- `" "`: attempt to autodetect the file format.
- `"caca"`: import native libcaca files.

- `"text"`: import ASCII text files.
- `"ansi"`: import ANSI files.
- `"utf8"`: import UTF-8 files with ANSI colour codes.

The number of bytes read is returned. If the file format is valid, but not enough data was available, 0 is returned.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- **ENOSYS** File access is not implemented on this system.
- **ENOMEM** Not enough memory to allocate canvas.
- **EINVAL** Invalid format requested. `cucul_import_file()` may also fail and set **errno** for any of the errors specified for the routine `fopen()`.

#### Parameters:

- cv* A libcucul canvas in which to import the file.
- filename* The name of the file to load.
- format* A string describing the input format.

#### Returns:

The number of bytes read, or 0 if there was not enough data, or -1 if an error occurred.

#### 2.11.2.3 `char const* const* cucul_get_import_list (void)`

Return a list of available import formats. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings, interleaving a string containing the internal value for the import format, to be used with `cucul_import_canvas()`, and a string containing the natural language description for that import format.

This function never fails.

#### Returns:

An array of strings.

#### 2.11.2.4 `void* cucul_export_memory (cucul_canvas_t * cv, char const * format, unsigned long int * bytes)`

This function exports a libcucul canvas into various foreign formats such as ANSI art, HTML, IRC colours, etc. The returned pointer should be passed to `free()` to release the allocated storage when it is no longer needed.

Valid values for `format` are:

- `"caca"`: export native libcaca files.
- `"ansi"`: export ANSI art (CP437 charset with ANSI colour codes).
- `"html"`: export an HTML page with CSS information.
- `"html3"`: export an HTML table that should be compatible with most navigators, including textmode ones.

- "irc": export UTF-8 text with mIRC colour codes.
- "ps": export a PostScript document.
- "svg": export an SVG vector image.
- "tga": export a TGA image.

If an error occurs, NULL is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- EINVAL Unsupported format requested.
- ENOMEM Not enough memory to allocate output buffer.

#### Parameters:

*cv* A libcucul canvas

*format* A string describing the requested output format.

*bytes* A pointer to an unsigned long integer where the number of allocated bytes will be written.

#### Returns:

A pointer to the exported memory area, or NULL in case of error.

#### 2.11.2.5 char const\* const\* cucul\_get\_export\_list (void)

Return a list of available export formats. The list is a NULL-terminated array of strings, interleaving a string containing the internal value for the export format, to be used with [cucul\\_export\\_memory\(\)](#), and a string containing the natural language description for that export format.

This function never fails.

#### Returns:

An array of strings.

## 2.12 libcaca basic functions

### Functions

- [caca\\_display\\_t \\* caca\\_create\\_display \(cucul\\_canvas\\_t \\*\)](#)  
*Attach a caca graphical context to a cucul canvas.*
- [int caca\\_free\\_display \(caca\\_display\\_t \\*\)](#)  
*Detach a caca graphical context from a cucul backend context.*
- [int caca\\_refresh\\_display \(caca\\_display\\_t \\*\)](#)  
*Flush pending changes and redraw the screen.*
- [int caca\\_set\\_display\\_time \(caca\\_display\\_t \\*, unsigned int\)](#)  
*Set the refresh delay.*
- [unsigned int caca\\_get\\_display\\_time \(caca\\_display\\_t \\*\)](#)

*Get the display's average rendering time.*

- unsigned int `caca_get_display_width` (`caca_display_t *`)  
*Get the display width.*
- unsigned int `caca_get_display_height` (`caca_display_t *`)  
*Get the display height.*
- int `caca_set_display_title` (`caca_display_t *`, char const \*)  
*Set the display title.*

### 2.12.1 Detailed Description

These functions provide the basic *libcaca* routines for driver initialisation, system information retrieval and configuration.

### 2.12.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.12.2.1 `caca_display_t* caca_create_display (cucul_canvas_t * cv)`

Create a graphical context using device-dependent features (ncurses for terminals, an X11 window, a DOS command window...) that attaches to a libcucul canvas. Everything that gets drawn in the libcucul canvas can then be displayed by the libcaca driver.

If an error occurs, NULL is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- ENOMEM Not enough memory.
- EODEV Graphical device could not be initialised.

#### Parameters:

*cv* The cucul canvas.

#### Returns:

The caca graphical context or NULL if an error occurred.

#### 2.12.2.2 `int caca_free_display (caca_display_t * dp)`

Detach a graphical context from its cucul backend and destroy it. The libcucul canvas continues to exist and other graphical contexts can be attached to it afterwards.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*dp* The libcaca graphical context.

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

### 2.12.2.3 int `caca_refresh_display` (`caca_display_t * dp`)

Flush all graphical operations and print them to the display device. Nothing will show on the screen until this function is called.

If `caca_set_display_time()` was called with a non-zero value, `caca_refresh_display()` will use that value to achieve constant framerate: if two consecutive calls to `caca_refresh_display()` are within a time range shorter than the value set with `caca_set_display_time()`, the second call will be delayed before performing the screen refresh.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*dp* The libcacaca display context.

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

### 2.12.2.4 int `caca_set_display_time` (`caca_display_t * dp`, unsigned int *usec*)

Set the refresh delay in microseconds. The refresh delay is used by `caca_refresh_display()` to achieve constant framerate. See the `caca_refresh_display()` documentation for more details.

If the argument is zero, constant framerate is disabled. This is the default behaviour.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*dp* The libcacaca display context.

*usec* The refresh delay in microseconds.

#### Returns:

This function always returns 0.

### 2.12.2.5 unsigned int `caca_get_display_time` (`caca_display_t * dp`)

Get the average rendering time, which is the average measured time between two `caca_refresh_display()` calls, in microseconds. If constant framerate was activated by calling `caca_set_display_time()`, the average rendering time will be close to the requested delay even if the real rendering time was shorter.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

*dp* The libcacaca display context.

#### Returns:

The render time in microseconds.

#### 2.12.2.6 unsigned int caca\_get\_display\_width (caca\_display\_t \* *dp*)

If libcaca runs in a window, get the usable window width. This value can be used for aspect ratio calculation. If libcaca does not run in a window or if there is no way to know the font size, most drivers will assume a 6x10 font is being used. Note that the units are not necessarily pixels.

This function never fails.

##### Parameters:

*dp* The libcaca display context.

##### Returns:

The display width.

#### 2.12.2.7 unsigned int caca\_get\_display\_height (caca\_display\_t \* *dp*)

If libcaca runs in a window, get the usable window height. This value can be used for aspect ratio calculation. If libcaca does not run in a window or if there is no way to know the font size, assume a 6x10 font is being used. Note that the units are not necessarily pixels.

This function never fails.

##### Parameters:

*dp* The libcaca display context.

##### Returns:

The display height.

#### 2.12.2.8 int caca\_set\_display\_title (caca\_display\_t \* *dp*, char const \* *title*)

If libcaca runs in a window, try to change its title. This works with the ncurses, S-Lang, OpenGL, X11 and Win32 drivers.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- ENOSYS Display driver does not support setting the window title.

##### Parameters:

*dp* The libcaca display context.

*title* The desired display title.

##### Returns:

0 upon success, -1 if an error occurred.

## 2.13 libcaca event handling

### Functions

- int [caca\\_get\\_event](#) (caca\_display\_t \*, unsigned int, caca\_event\_t \*, int)

*Get the next mouse or keyboard input event.*

- unsigned int [caca\\_get\\_mouse\\_x](#) ([caca\\_display\\_t](#) \*)  
*Return the X mouse coordinate.*
- unsigned int [caca\\_get\\_mouse\\_y](#) ([caca\\_display\\_t](#) \*)  
*Return the Y mouse coordinate.*
- int [caca\\_set\\_mouse](#) ([caca\\_display\\_t](#) \*, int)  
*Show or hide the mouse pointer.*

### 2.13.1 Detailed Description

These functions handle user events such as keyboard input and mouse clicks.

### 2.13.2 Function Documentation

#### 2.13.2.1 int [caca\\_get\\_event](#) ([caca\\_display\\_t](#) \* *dp*, unsigned int *event\_mask*, [caca\\_event\\_t](#) \* *ev*, int *timeout*)

Poll the event queue for mouse or keyboard events matching the event mask and return the first matching event. Non-matching events are discarded. If *event\_mask* is zero, the function returns immediately.

The timeout value tells how long this function needs to wait for an event. A value of zero returns immediately and the function returns zero if no more events are pending in the queue. A negative value causes the function to wait indefinitely until a matching event is received.

If not null, *ev* will be filled with information about the event received. If null, the function will return but no information about the event will be sent.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

- dp* The libcaca graphical context.
- event\_mask* Bitmask of requested events.
- timeout* A timeout value in microseconds, -1 for blocking behaviour
- ev* A pointer to a [caca\\_event](#) structure, or NULL.

#### Returns:

- 1 if a matching event was received, or 0 if the wait timed out.

#### 2.13.2.2 unsigned int [caca\\_get\\_mouse\\_x](#) ([caca\\_display\\_t](#) \* *dp*)

Return the X coordinate of the mouse position last time it was detected. This function is not reliable if the ncurses or S-Lang drivers are being used, because mouse position is only detected when the mouse is clicked. Other drivers such as X11 work well.

This function never fails.

#### Parameters:

- dp* The libcaca graphical context.

**Returns:**

The X mouse coordinate.

**2.13.2.3 unsigned int caca\_get\_mouse\_y (caca\_display\_t \* dp)**

Return the Y coordinate of the mouse position last time it was detected. This function is not reliable if the ncurses or S-Lang drivers are being used, because mouse position is only detected when the mouse is clicked. Other drivers such as X11 work well.

This function never fails.

**Parameters:**

*dp* The libcaca graphical context.

**Returns:**

The Y mouse coordinate.

**2.13.2.4 int caca\_set\_mouse (caca\_display\_t \* dp, int flag)**

Show or hide the mouse pointer, for devices that support such a feature.

If an error occurs, -1 is returned and **errno** is set accordingly:

- ENOSYS Display driver does not support hiding the mouse pointer.

**Parameters:**

*dp* The libcaca display context.

*flag* 0 hides the pointer, 1 shows the system's default pointer (usually an arrow). Other values are reserved for future use.

**Returns:**

0 upon success, -1 if an error occurred.

## 3 libcaca Data Structure Documentation

### 3.1 caca\_event Struct Reference

Handling of user events.

**Public Types**

- enum `caca_event_type` {  
    `CACA_EVENT_NONE` = 0x0000, `CACA_EVENT_KEY_PRESS` = 0x0001, `CACA_EVENT_KEY_RELEASE` = 0x0002, `CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_PRESS` = 0x0004,  
    `CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_RELEASE` = 0x0008, `CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_MOTION` = 0x0010,  
    `CACA_EVENT_RESIZE` = 0x0020, `CACA_EVENT_QUIT` = 0x0040,  
    `CACA_EVENT_ANY` = 0xffff }

*User event type enumeration.*



**Data Fields**

- enum `caca_event::caca_event_type` type  
*User event type enumeration. User event type member.*
  - union {
    - struct {
      - unsigned int `x`
      - unsigned int `y`
      - unsigned int `button`
    - mouse**
    - struct {
      - unsigned int `w`
      - unsigned int `h`
    - resize**
    - struct {
      - unsigned int `ch`
      - unsigned long int `utf32`
      - char `utf8` [8]
    - key**
  - `data`
- User event data member.*

**3.1.1 Detailed Description**

This structure is filled by `caca_get_event()` when an event is received. The *type* field is always valid.

**3.1.2 Member Enumeration Documentation****3.1.2.1 enum `caca_event::caca_event_type`**

This enum serves two purposes:

- Build listening masks for `caca_get_event()`.
- Define the type of a `caca_event_t`.

**Enumerator:**

**`CACA_EVENT_NONE`** No event.

**`CACA_EVENT_KEY_PRESS`** A key was pressed.

**`CACA_EVENT_KEY_RELEASE`** A key was released.

**`CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_PRESS`** A mouse button was pressed.

**`CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_RELEASE`** A mouse button was released.

**`CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_MOTION`** The mouse was moved.

**`CACA_EVENT_RESIZE`** The window was resized.

**`CACA_EVENT_QUIT`** The user requested to quit.

**`CACA_EVENT_ANY`** Bitmask for any event.

### 3.1.3 Field Documentation

#### 3.1.3.1 `enum caca_event::caca_event_type caca_event::type`

This field is always valid when `caca_get_event()` returns.

#### 3.1.3.2 `union { ... } caca_event::data`

The validity of the *data* union depends on the value of the *type* field:

- `CACA_EVENT_NONE`: no field is valid.
- `CACA_EVENT_KEY_PRESS`, `CACA_EVENT_KEY_RELEASE`: the *data.key.ch* field is valid and contains either the ASCII value for the key, or an *enum caca\_key* value. If the value is a printable ASCII character, the *data.key.utf32* and *data.key.utf8* fields are also filled and contain respectively the UTF-32/UCS-4 and the UTF-8 representations of the character. Otherwise, their content is undefined.
- `CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_PRESS`, `CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_RELEASE`: the *data.mouse.button* field is valid and contains the index of the mouse button that was pressed.
- `CACA_EVENT_MOUSE_MOTION`: the *data.mouse.x* and *data.mouse.y* fields are valid and contain the mouse coordinates in character cells.
- `CACA_EVENT_RESIZE`: the *data.resize.w* and *data.resize.h* fields are valid and contain the new width and height values of the *libcucul* canvas attached to *libcaca*.
- `CACA_EVENT_QUIT`: no other field is valid.

The result of accessing data members outside the above conditions is undefined.

## 4 libcaca File Documentation

### 4.1 `caca.h` File Reference

The *libcaca* public header.

#### Data Structures

- struct `caca_event`  
*Handling of user events.*

#### Defines

- `#define CACA_API_VERSION_1`

#### Typedefs

- typedef `caca_display` `caca_display_t`
- typedef `caca_event` `caca_event_t`

## Enumerations

- enum `caca_key` {
  - `CACA_KEY_UNKNOWN` = 0x00, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_A` = 0x01, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_B` = 0x02, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_C` = 0x03,
  - `CACA_KEY_CTRL_D` = 0x04, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_E` = 0x05, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_F` = 0x06, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_G` = 0x07,
  - `CACA_KEY_BACKSPACE` = 0x08, `CACA_KEY_TAB` = 0x09, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_J` = 0x0a, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_K` = 0x0b,
  - `CACA_KEY_CTRL_L` = 0x0c, `CACA_KEY_RETURN` = 0x0d, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_N` = 0x0e, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_O` = 0x0f,
  - `CACA_KEY_CTRL_P` = 0x10, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_Q` = 0x11, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_R` = 0x12, `CACA_KEY_PAUSE` = 0x13,
  - `CACA_KEY_CTRL_T` = 0x14, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_U` = 0x15, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_V` = 0x16, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_W` = 0x17,
  - `CACA_KEY_CTRL_X` = 0x18, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_Y` = 0x19, `CACA_KEY_CTRL_Z` = 0x1a, `CACA_KEY_ESCAPE` = 0x1b,
  - `CACA_KEY_DELETE` = 0x7f, `CACA_KEY_UP` = 0x111, `CACA_KEY_DOWN` = 0x112, `CACA_KEY_LEFT` = 0x113,
  - `CACA_KEY_RIGHT` = 0x114, `CACA_KEY_INSERT` = 0x115, `CACA_KEY_HOME` = 0x116, `CACA_KEY_END` = 0x117,
  - `CACA_KEY_PAGEUP` = 0x118, `CACA_KEY_PAGEDOWN` = 0x119, `CACA_KEY_F1` = 0x11a, `CACA_KEY_F2` = 0x11b,
  - `CACA_KEY_F3` = 0x11c, `CACA_KEY_F4` = 0x11d, `CACA_KEY_F5` = 0x11e, `CACA_KEY_F6` = 0x11f,
  - `CACA_KEY_F7` = 0x120, `CACA_KEY_F8` = 0x121, `CACA_KEY_F9` = 0x122, `CACA_KEY_F10` = 0x123,
  - `CACA_KEY_F11` = 0x124, `CACA_KEY_F12` = 0x125, `CACA_KEY_F13` = 0x126, `CACA_KEY_F14` = 0x127,
  - `CACA_KEY_F15` = 0x128 }

*Special key values.*

## Functions

- `caca_display_t * caca_create_display (cucul_canvas_t *)`  
*Attach a caca graphical context to a cucul canvas.*
- `int caca_free_display (caca_display_t *)`  
*Detach a caca graphical context from a cucul backend context.*
- `int caca_refresh_display (caca_display_t *)`  
*Flush pending changes and redraw the screen.*
- `int caca_set_display_time (caca_display_t *, unsigned int)`  
*Set the refresh delay.*
- `unsigned int caca_get_display_time (caca_display_t *)`

*Get the display's average rendering time.*

- unsigned int `caca_get_display_width` (`caca_display_t *`)  
*Get the display width.*
- unsigned int `caca_get_display_height` (`caca_display_t *`)  
*Get the display height.*
- int `caca_set_display_title` (`caca_display_t *`, char const \*)  
*Set the display title.*
- int `caca_get_event` (`caca_display_t *`, unsigned int, `caca_event_t *`, int)  
*Get the next mouse or keyboard input event.*
- unsigned int `caca_get_mouse_x` (`caca_display_t *`)  
*Return the X mouse coordinate.*
- unsigned int `caca_get_mouse_y` (`caca_display_t *`)  
*Return the Y mouse coordinate.*
- int `caca_set_mouse` (`caca_display_t *`, int)  
*Show or hide the mouse pointer.*

#### 4.1.1 Detailed Description

##### Version:

\$Id: [caca.h](#) 1059 2006-11-13 08:55:36Z sam \$

##### Author:

Sam Hocevar <[sam@zoy.org](mailto:sam@zoy.org)>

This header contains the public types and functions that applications using *libcaca* may use.

#### 4.1.2 Define Documentation

##### 4.1.2.1 #define CACA\_API\_VERSION\_1

libcaca API version

#### 4.1.3 Typedef Documentation

##### 4.1.3.1 typedef struct caca\_display caca\_display\_t

*libcaca* display context

##### 4.1.3.2 typedef struct caca\_event caca\_event\_t

*libcaca* event structure

#### 4.1.4 Enumeration Type Documentation

##### 4.1.4.1 enum caca\_key

Special key values returned by [caca\\_get\\_event\(\)](#) for which there is no printable ASCII equivalent.

**Enumerator:**

*CACA\_KEY\_UNKNOWN* Unknown key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_A* The Ctrl-A key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_B* The Ctrl-B key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_C* The Ctrl-C key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_D* The Ctrl-D key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_E* The Ctrl-E key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_F* The Ctrl-F key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_G* The Ctrl-G key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_BACKSPACE* The backspace key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_TAB* The tabulation key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_J* The Ctrl-J key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_K* The Ctrl-K key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_L* The Ctrl-L key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_RETURN* The return key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_N* The Ctrl-N key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_O* The Ctrl-O key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_P* The Ctrl-P key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_Q* The Ctrl-Q key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_R* The Ctrl-R key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_PAUSE* The pause key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_T* The Ctrl-T key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_U* The Ctrl-U key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_V* The Ctrl-V key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_W* The Ctrl-W key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_X* The Ctrl-X key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_Y* The Ctrl-Y key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_CTRL\_Z* The Ctrl-Z key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_ESCAPE* The escape key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_DELETE* The delete key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_UP* The up arrow key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_DOWN* The down arrow key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_LEFT* The left arrow key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_RIGHT* The right arrow key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_INSERT* The insert key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_HOME* The home key.  
*CACA\_KEY\_END* The end key.

**CACA\_KEY\_PAGEUP** The page up key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_PAGEDOWN** The page down key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F1** The F1 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F2** The F2 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F3** The F3 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F4** The F4 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F5** The F5 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F6** The F6 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F7** The F7 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F8** The F8 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F9** The F9 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F10** The F10 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F11** The F11 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F12** The F12 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F13** The F13 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F14** The F14 key.  
**CACA\_KEY\_F15** The F15 key.

## 4.2 cucul.h File Reference

The *libcucul* public header.

### Defines

- #define [CUCUL\\_API\\_VERSION\\_1](#)
- #define [CUCUL\\_BLACK](#) 0x00
- #define [CUCUL\\_BLUE](#) 0x01
- #define [CUCUL\\_GREEN](#) 0x02
- #define [CUCUL\\_CYAN](#) 0x03
- #define [CUCUL\\_RED](#) 0x04
- #define [CUCUL\\_MAGENTA](#) 0x05
- #define [CUCUL\\_BROWN](#) 0x06
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTGRAY](#) 0x07
- #define [CUCUL\\_DARKGRAY](#) 0x08
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTBLUE](#) 0x09
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTGREEN](#) 0x0a
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTCYAN](#) 0x0b
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTRED](#) 0x0c
- #define [CUCUL\\_LIGHTMAGENTA](#) 0x0d
- #define [CUCUL\\_YELLOW](#) 0x0e
- #define [CUCUL\\_WHITE](#) 0x0f
- #define [CUCUL\\_DEFAULT](#) 0x10
- #define [CUCUL\\_TRANSPARENT](#) 0x20
- #define [CUCUL\\_BOLD](#) 0x01
- #define [CUCUL\\_ITALICS](#) 0x02
- #define [CUCUL\\_UNDERLINE](#) 0x04
- #define [CUCUL\\_BLINK](#) 0x08
- #define [CUCUL\\_MAGIC\\_FULLWIDTH](#) 0x000ffffe

### Typedefs

- typedef cucul\_canvas [cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#)
- typedef cucul\_dither [cucul\\_dither\\_t](#)
- typedef cucul\_font [cucul\\_font\\_t](#)

### Functions

- [cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \* [cucul\\_create\\_canvas](#) (unsigned int, unsigned int)  
*Initialise a libcucul canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_canvas\\_size](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, unsigned int, unsigned int)  
*Resize a canvas.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_canvas\\_width](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get the canvas width.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_canvas\\_height](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get the canvas height.*
- int [cucul\\_free\\_canvas](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)  
*Uninitialise libcucul.*
- int [cucul\\_rand](#) (int, int)  
*Generate a random integer within a range.*
- int [cucul\\_gotoxy](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int)  
*Set cursor position.*
- int [cucul\\_get\\_cursor\\_x](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get X cursor position.*
- int [cucul\\_get\\_cursor\\_y](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get Y cursor position.*
- int [cucul\\_put\\_char](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Print an ASCII or Unicode character.*
- unsigned long int [cucul\\_get\\_char](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int)  
*Get the Unicode character at the given coordinates.*
- int [cucul\\_put\\_str](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, char const \*)  
*Print a string.*
- unsigned long int [cucul\\_get\\_attr](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int)  
*Get the text attribute at the given coordinates.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_attr](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, unsigned long int)  
*Set the default character attribute.*

- int `cucul_put_attr` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Set the character attribute at the given coordinates.*
- int `cucul_set_color_ansi` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, unsigned char, unsigned char)  
*Set the default colour pair for text (ANSI version).*
- int `cucul_set_color_argb` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, unsigned int, unsigned int)  
*Set the default colour pair for text (truecolor version).*
- int `cucul_printf` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, int, int, char const \*,...)  
*Print a formatted string.*
- int `cucul_clear_canvas` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Clear the canvas.*
- int `cucul_set_canvas_handle` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, int, int)  
*Set cursor handle.*
- int `cucul_get_canvas_handle_x` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Get X handle position.*
- int `cucul_get_canvas_handle_y` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Get Y handle position.*
- int `cucul_blit` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, int, int, `cucul_canvas_t` const \*, `cucul_canvas_t` const \*)  
*Blit a canvas onto another one.*
- int `cucul_set_canvas_boundaries` (`cucul_canvas_t *`, int, int, unsigned int, unsigned int)  
*Set a canvas' new boundaries.*
- int `cucul_invert` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Invert a canvas' colours.*
- int `cucul_flip` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Flip a canvas horizontally.*
- int `cucul_flop` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Flip a canvas vertically.*
- int `cucul_rotate` (`cucul_canvas_t *`)  
*Rotate a canvas.*
- unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi` (unsigned long int)  
*Get DOS ANSI information from attribute.*
- unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi_fg` (unsigned long int)  
*Get ANSI foreground information from attribute.*
- unsigned char `cucul_attr_to_ansi_bg` (unsigned long int)  
*Get ANSI background information from attribute.*



- unsigned long int [cucul\\_utf8\\_to\\_utf32](#) (char const \*, unsigned int \*)  
*Convert a UTF-8 character to UTF-32.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_utf32\\_to\\_utf8](#) (char \*, unsigned long int)  
*Convert a UTF-32 character to UTF-8.*
- unsigned char [cucul\\_utf32\\_to\\_cp437](#) (unsigned long int)  
*Convert a UTF-32 character to CP437.*
- unsigned long int [cucul\\_cp437\\_to\\_utf32](#) (unsigned char)  
*Convert a CP437 character to UTF-32.*
- int [cucul\\_utf32\\_is\\_fullwidth](#) (unsigned long int)  
*Tell whether a UTF-32 character is fullwidth.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_line](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a line on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_polyline](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int const x[ ], int const y[ ], int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a polyline.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_line](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin line on the canvas, using ASCII art.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_polyline](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int const x[ ], int const y[ ], int)  
*Draw an ASCII art thin polyline.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_circle](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a circle on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_ellipse](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw an ellipse on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_ellipse](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin ellipse on the canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_fill\\_ellipse](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Fill an ellipse on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_box](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a box on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_box](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin box on the canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_cp437\\_box](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a box on the canvas using CP437 characters.*
- int [cucul\\_fill\\_box](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)

*Fill a box on the canvas using the given character.*

- int [cucul\\_draw\\_triangle](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Draw a triangle on the canvas using the given character.*
- int [cucul\\_draw\\_thin\\_triangle](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, int, int)  
*Draw a thin triangle on the canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_fill\\_triangle](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, int, int, int, int, int, int, unsigned long int)  
*Fill a triangle on the canvas using the given character.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_frame\\_count](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Get the number of frames in a canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_frame](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, unsigned int)  
*Activate a given canvas frame.*
- char const \* [cucul\\_get\\_frame\\_name](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*)  
*Get the current frame's name.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_frame\\_name](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, char const \*)  
*Set the current frame's name.*
- int [cucul\\_create\\_frame](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, unsigned int)  
*Add a frame to a canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_free\\_frame](#) (cucul\_canvas\_t \*, unsigned int)  
*Remove a frame from a canvas.*
- cucul\_dither\_t \* [cucul\\_create\\_dither](#) (unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned long int, unsigned long int, unsigned long int, unsigned long int)  
*Create an internal dither object.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_palette](#) (cucul\_dither\_t \*, unsigned int r[], unsigned int g[], unsigned int b[], unsigned int a[])  
*Set the palette of an 8bpp dither object.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_brightness](#) (cucul\_dither\_t \*, float)  
*Set the brightness of a dither object.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_gamma](#) (cucul\_dither\_t \*, float)  
*Set the gamma of a dither object.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_contrast](#) (cucul\_dither\_t \*, float)  
*Set the contrast of a dither object.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_invert](#) (cucul\_dither\_t \*, int)  
*Invert colors of dither.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_antialias](#) (cucul\_dither\_t \*, char const \*)

*Set dither antialiasing.*

- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_antialias\\_list](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) const \*)  
*Get available antialiasing methods.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_color](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) \*, char const \*)  
*Choose colours used for dithering.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_color\\_list](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) const \*)  
*Get available colour modes.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_charset](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) \*, char const \*)  
*Choose characters used for dithering.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_charset\\_list](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) const \*)  
*Get available dither character sets.*
- int [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_mode](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) \*, char const \*)  
*Set dithering method.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_mode\\_list](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) const \*)  
*Get dithering methods.*
- int [cucul\\_dither\\_bitmap](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, int, int, int, int, [cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) const \*, void \*)  
*Dither a bitmap on the canvas.*
- int [cucul\\_free\\_dither](#) ([cucul\\_dither\\_t](#) \*)  
*Free the memory associated with a dither.*
- [cucul\\_font\\_t](#) \* [cucul\\_load\\_font](#) (void const \*, unsigned int)  
*Load a font from memory for future use.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_list](#) (void)  
*Get available builtin fonts.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_width](#) ([cucul\\_font\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get a font's standard glyph width.*
- unsigned int [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_height](#) ([cucul\\_font\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get a font's standard glyph height.*
- unsigned long int const \* [cucul\\_get\\_font\\_blocks](#) ([cucul\\_font\\_t](#) \*)  
*Get a font's list of supported glyphs.*
- int [cucul\\_render\\_canvas](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, [cucul\\_font\\_t](#) \*, void \*, unsigned int, unsigned int, unsigned int)  
*Render the canvas onto an image buffer.*
- int [cucul\\_free\\_font](#) ([cucul\\_font\\_t](#) \*)  
*Free a font structure.*

- long int [cucul\\_import\\_memory](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, void const \*, unsigned long int, char const \*)  
*Import a memory buffer into a canvas.*
- long int [cucul\\_import\\_file](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, char const \*, char const \*)  
*Import a file into a canvas.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_import\\_list](#) (void)  
*Get available import formats.*
- void \* [cucul\\_export\\_memory](#) ([cucul\\_canvas\\_t](#) \*, char const \*, unsigned long int \*)  
*Export a canvas into a foreign format.*
- char const \*const \* [cucul\\_get\\_export\\_list](#) (void)  
*Get available export formats.*

### 4.2.1 Detailed Description

#### Version:

\$Id: [cucul.h](#) 1063 2006-11-13 23:16:35Z sam \$

#### Author:

Sam Hocevar <[sam@zoy.org](mailto:sam@zoy.org)>

This header contains the public types and functions that applications using *libcucul* may use.

### 4.2.2 Define Documentation

#### 4.2.2.1 #define CUCUL\_API\_VERSION\_1

libcucul API version

### 4.2.3 Typedef Documentation

#### 4.2.3.1 typedef struct cucul\_canvas cucul\_canvas\_t

*libcucul* canvas

#### 4.2.3.2 typedef struct cucul\_dither cucul\_dither\_t

dither structure

#### 4.2.3.3 typedef struct cucul\_font cucul\_font\_t

font structure

## 5 libcaca Page Documentation

### 5.1 Authors

Sam Hocevar <[sam@zoy.org](mailto:sam@zoy.org)>

- main programmer

Jean-Yves Lamoureux <[jylam@lnxscene.org](mailto:jylam@lnxscene.org)>

- cacaball
- OpenGL driver
- Pypycaca Python wrapper
- exporters
- network driver

John Beppu <[beppu@lbox.org](mailto:beppu@lbox.org)>

- Term::Caca Perl wrapper

### 5.2 News

#### 5.2.1 Changes between 0.9.beta11 and 0.99.beta10

- fixed compilation of the C++ bindings
- fixed bugs in [cucul\\_import\\_memory\(\)](#), [cucul\\_set\\_canvas\\_size\(\)](#)
- implemented [caca\\_set\\_display\\_title\(\)](#) for ncurses and S-Lang
- minor bugfixes

#### 5.2.2 Changes between 0.9.beta10 and 0.99.beta9

- new debug mode
- blitting canvases now makes use of the canvas' handle coordinates
- import functions can read streamed data
- attribute to colorspace transformations
- added katakana and hiragana glyphs to the built-in font
- many bugfixes and documentation changes

### 5.2.3 Changes between 0.9.beta9 and 0.99.beta8

- support for blink, bold, italics and underline attributes
- allow to import and export zero-sized canvases
- fixed Imlib2 support in cacaview
- fixed buffer overflows in the file importer
- big documentation updates

### 5.2.4 Changes between 0.9.beta8 and 0.99.beta7

- allow to build the X11 and GL drivers as separate plugins
- support for fullwidth Unicode characters
- improved `cucul_flip()` and `cucul_rotate()`
- minor bugfixes and documentation updates

### 5.2.5 Changes between 0.9.beta7 and 0.99.beta6

- transparency support in the UTF-8 importer and exporter
- optimised triangle fill routine
- updated C++ bindings

### 5.2.6 Changes between 0.9.beta6 and 0.99.beta5

- ANSI importer now handles transparency and UTF-8
- Unicode support was broken for about 10% of the set
- various memory leaks were fixed

### 5.2.7 Changes between 0.9.beta5 and 0.99.beta4

- implemented `cucul_getchar()` and `cucul_get_color()`
- handle transparency in the IRC export
- new cropping and expanding filters
- full Unicode support in the OpenGL driver
- portability fixes for 64-bit architectures, Win32 and MS-DOS
- all demos except cacafire were merged into cacademo

### 5.2.8 Changes between 0.9.beta4 and 0.99.beta3

- added a compatibility layer for pre-1.x libcaca applications
- fixed manpage generation
- minor bugfixes and documentation updates

### 5.2.9 Changes between 0.9.beta3 and 0.99.beta2

- libcaca functions use errno for error reporting
- updated C++ bindings
- minor improvements, bugfixes and documentation updates

### 5.2.10 Changes between 0.9.beta2 and 0.99.beta1

- ANSI importer
- functions use errno for error reporting
- updated C++ bindings
- .NET bindings
- cacadraw, an ANSI viewer that will evolve into an editor
- Unicode input and output support for SLang and ncurses
- built-in fonts work on Win32

### 5.2.11 Changes between 0.9 and 0.99.beta1

- license switched to WTFPL
- libcaca was split into libcucul, a standalone text manipulation backend, and libcaca, the display and user input frontend
- Unicode support
- TrueColor (more than 16 colours) support
- Floyd-Steinberg dithering
- gamma correction
- export functions for HTML, IRC, ANSI, SVG, PostScript, TGA...
- builtin fonts for device-independent bitmap output
- various text transformation routines (rotation, horizontal flip...)
- OpenGL renderer
- kernel mode to build libcaca programs into a bootable x86 kernel
- cacaserver, a telnet server that can be hooked to libcaca applications
- img2irc, an image to IRC conversion utility

### 5.2.12 Changes between 0.8 and 0.9

- fix for a buffer overflow in the line rendering
- fixed resizing in the ncurses and slang drivers
- aspect ratio and finer zoom support in cacaview
- minor compilation fixes

### 5.2.13 Changes between 0.7 and 0.8

- window resizing support
- native Win32 port
- autorepeat emulation in the ncurses and slang drivers
- support for more keycodes in the ncurses and slang drivers
- cacaplas, a plasma animation example
- cacamoir, a moire circles animation example
- MSVC project file

### 5.2.14 Changes between 0.6 and 0.7

- many bugfixes in the event handling
- cacaball, a metaball animation example

### 5.2.15 Changes between 0.5 and 0.6

- 30% speed increase in the bitmap rendering routine
- mouse support and various speed optimisations in the X11 driver
- X11 is now the preferred driver
- improved documentation
- minor bugfixes

### 5.2.16 Changes between 0.4 and 0.5

- palette optimisation for the S-Lang driver to work around the colour pair shortage bug
- minor compilation fix

### 5.2.17 Changes between 0.3 and 0.4

- preliminary X11 graphics driver
- support for simultaneously compiled-in drivers
- honour the CACA\_DRIVER, CACA\_GEOMETRY and CACA\_FONT environment variables
- more documentation



### 5.2.18 Changes between 0.2 and 0.3

- antialiasing support
- dithering, antialiasing and background mode can now be selected at runtime or in the environment using the CACA\_BACKGROUND, CACA\_DITHERING and CACA\_ANTIALIASING variables
- alpha channel support in cacaview
- BMP loading support in cacaview even if Imlib2 is not present
- cacafire, a libcaca port of aafire

### 5.2.19 Changes between 0.1 and 0.2

- rendering now uses 256 colour pairs instead of 16
- mouse support for ncurses
- ncurses is now the preferred backend
- arbitrary color depth and bitmasks in the bitmap renderer
- cacaview, an image viewer based on libcaca

### 5.2.20 New in 0.1

- initial release
- slang, ncurses and conio drivers
- basic line, box, ellipse and triangle primitives
- colour bitmap blitting

## 5.3 Thanks

### 5.3.1 Bugfixes and improvements

- Gildas Bazin <[gbazin@netcourrier.com](mailto:gbazin@netcourrier.com)> - win32 driver improvements
- Jari Komppa <jari.komppa at gmail> - win32 speed improvements

### 5.3.2 Reused code

- Jan Hubicka <[hubicka@freesoftware.cz](mailto:hubicka@freesoftware.cz)> - aafire
- Michele Bini <[mibini@tin.it](mailto:mibini@tin.it)> - original SDL plasma
- Free Software Foundation, Inc. - multiboot.S

### 5.3.3 Porters and packagers

- Derk-Jan Hartman <[thedj@users.sourceforge.net](mailto:thedj@users.sourceforge.net)> - Gentoo ebuild file
- Ladislav Hagara <[hgr@vabo.cz](mailto:hgr@vabo.cz)> - Source Mage spell
- Philip Balinov - Slackware package
- Richard Zidlicky <[rz@linux-m68k.org](mailto:rz@linux-m68k.org)> - rpm specfile
- Thomas Klausner <[wiz@NetBSD.org](mailto:wiz@NetBSD.org)> - NetBSD port maintainer
- Vincent Tarrantini <[vinc@FreeBSD-fr.org](mailto:vinc@FreeBSD-fr.org)> - FreeBSD port maintainer

## 5.4 TODO list

### 5.4.1 libcucul

#### 5.4.1.1 API-dependent stuff

- support for holes in canvas (eg. not full EOL)
- support for TAB
- allow to change the canvas size in a per-frame basis.
- export attribute parsing functions such as `attr_to_ansi4fg` etc.

#### 5.4.1.2 API-independent stuff

- Brightness, contrast support for bitmaps (the functions are here, we just need to fill them)
- Error distribution dithering
- Add a random factor to the random ditherer. No need to change the API for that, we can just pass `"random:10"` instead of `"random"` to the `cucul_set_bitmap_dithering()` function.
- Implement the colour modes set in `cucul_set_bitmap_color()`. For the moment only `"full16"` and `"16"` are implemented.
- Fix the thin ellipse rendering (currently it's only `|s` and `-s`, we could make them smoother by using `'`, etc).
- better mask support in `cucul_blit()`
- optimise exporters so that they do not allocate huge blocks of memory when they only need half of it.

### 5.4.2 libcaya

#### 5.4.2.1 API-dependent stuff

- beep support

#### 5.4.2.2 API-independent stuff

- Write a Linux console output
- Better keyboard driver in an X terminal, see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/zepp/message/381>
- Unicode support for X11 (maybe through Xft)
- fix Unicode support for ncurses (look at the nano source, it gets it right)
- and Jylam wants a framebuffer output
- write sample code for a text edit widget with cursor support

#### 5.4.3 Language bindings

##### 5.4.3.1 Needed

- Fix Python
- Fix Perl
- C# (it's the next big thing, believe me)
- PHP (together with the HTML output it would allow for nice web applications)

##### 5.4.3.2 Not that important

- Ruby
- Java

#### 5.4.4 Kernel mode

- keyboard support
- printf/fprintf are missing
- Improve malloc/free so that we can reuse freed memory

#### 5.4.5 Documentation

- Write a tutorial.
- Draw a nicer logo

#### 5.4.6 Applications

##### 5.4.7 cacaview

- File browser
- open ANSI files
- save in different formats

### 5.4.8 cacadraw

- Only a skeleton exists yet. A modern ANSI editor that can also do Unicode.

## 5.5 The libcaca canvas format (version 1)

All types are big endian.

```
struct
{
magic:
    uint8_t caca_header[2];    // "\xCA\xCA"
    uint8_t caca_file_type[2]; // "CV"

canvas_header:
    uint32_t control_size;    // Control size (canvas_data - canvas_header)
    uint32_t data_size;      // Data size (EOF - canvas_data)

    uint16_t version;        // Canvas format version
                                // bit 0: set to 1 if canvas is compatible
                                // with version 1 of the format
                                // bits 1-15: unused yet, must be 0

    uint32_t frames;         // Frame count

    uint16_t flags;          // Feature flags
                                // bits 0-15: unused yet, must be 0

frame_info:
    struct
    {
        uint32_t width;      // Frame width
        uint32_t height;     // Frame height
        uint32_t duration;   // Frame duration in milliseconds, 0 to
                                // not specify a duration
        uint32_t attr;       // Graphics context attribute
        int32_t cursor_x;    // Cursor X coordinate
        int32_t cursor_y;    // Cursor Y coordinate
        int32_t handle_x;    // Handle X coordinate
        int32_t handle_y;    // Handle Y coordinate
    }
    frame_list[frames];

control_extension_1:
control_extension_2:
...
control_extension_N:
...                // reserved for future use

canvas_data:
    uint8_t data[data_size]; // canvas data

data_extension_1:
data_extension_2:
...
data_extension_N:
...                // reserved for future use
};
```

## 5.6 The libcaca font format (version 1)

All types are big endian.

```

struct
{
magic:
    uint8_t caca_header[2];    // "\xCA\xCA"
    uint8_t caca_file_type[2]; // "FT"

font_header:
    uint32_t control_size;      // Control size (font_data - font_header)
    uint32_t data_size;        // Data size (EOF - font_data)

    uint16_t version;          // Font format version
                                // bit 0: set to 1 if font is compatible
                                // with version 1 of the format
                                // bits 1-15: unused yet, must be 0

    uint16_t blocks;           // Number of blocks in the font
    uint32_t glyphs;           // Total number of glyphs in the font

    uint16_t bpp;              // Bits per pixel for glyph data (valid
                                // Values are 1, 2, 4 and 8)

    uint16_t width;            // Standard glyph width
    uint16_t height;           // Standard glyph height
    uint16_t maxwidth;         // Maximum glyph width
    uint16_t maxheight;        // Maximum glyph height

    uint16_t flags;            // Feature flags
                                // bit 0: set to 1 if font is fixed width
                                // bits 1-15: unused yet, must be 0

block_info:
    struct
    {
        uint32_t start;        // Unicode index of the first glyph
        uint32_t stop;         // Unicode index of the last glyph + 1
        uint32_t index;        // Glyph info index of the first glyph
    }
    block_list[blocks];

glyph_info:
    struct
    {
        uint16_t width;        // Glyph width in pixels
        uint16_t height;       // Glyph height in pixels
        uint32_t data_offset;   // Offset (starting from data) to the data
                                // for the first character
    }
    glyph_list[ glyphs ];

control_extension_1:
control_extension_2:
    ...
control_extension_N:
    ...                        // reserved for future use

font_data:
    uint8_t data[data_size];   // glyph data

data_extension_1:
data_extension_2:
    ...
data_extension_N:
    ...                        // reserved for future use
};

```

## 5.7 Migrating from libcaca 0.x to the 1.0 API

This section will guide you through the migration of a *libcaca* 0.x application to the latest API version.

### 5.7.1 Overview

The most important changes in the 1.0 API of *libcaca* are the *libcaca* / *libcucul* split and the object-oriented design. See these two examples for a rough idea of what changed:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <pre>#include &lt;caca.h&gt;  /* libcaca program - 0.x API */ int main(void) {     /* Initialise libcaca */     caca_init();     /* Set window title */     caca_set_window_title("Window");     /* Choose drawing colours */     caca_set_color(CACA_COLOR_BLACK,                   CACA_COLOR_WHITE);     /* Draw a string at (0, 0) */     caca_putstr(0, 0, "Hello world!");     /* Refresh display */     caca_refresh();     /* Wait for a key press event */     caca_wait_event(CACA_EVENT_KEY_PRESS);     /* Clean up library */     caca_end();      return 0; }</pre> | <pre>#include &lt;cucul.h&gt; #include &lt;caca.h&gt;  /* libcaca program - 1.0 API */ int main(void) {     /* Initialise libcaca */     cucul_canvas_t *cv;     caca_display_t *dp;     cv = cucul_create_canvas(0, 0);     dp = caca_create_display(cv);     /* Set window title */     caca_set_display_title(dp, "Window");     /* Choose drawing colours */     cucul_set_color_ansi(cv, CUCUL_BLACK,                         CUCUL_WHITE);     /* Draw a string at (0, 0) */     cucul_put_str(cv, 0, 0, "Hello world!");     /* Refresh display */     caca_refresh_display();     /* Wait for a key press event */     caca_get_event(dp, CACA_EVENT_KEY_PRESS,                   NULL, -1);     /* Clean up library */     caca_free_display(dp);     cucul_free_canvas(cv);      return 0; }</pre> |
|--|--|

Note the following important things:

- Functions now take an object handle as their first argument.
- All input/output functions start with **caca\_** and all drawing and text handling functions start with **cucul\_**.

### 5.7.2 Migration strategy

You have two ways to migrate your application to use *libcaca* 1.x:

- Port your code using the function equivalence list. This is the preferred way because new functions are thread safe and offer much more features to both the programmer and the end user.
- Use the legacy compatibility layer.

Using the compatibility layer is as easy as adding the following three lines:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <pre>#include &lt;caca.h&gt;  /* libcaca program - 0.x API */ ...</pre> | <pre>#include &lt;caca.h&gt; #ifdef CACA_API_VERSION_1 #    include &lt;caca0.h&gt; #endif  /* libcaca program - 0.x API */ ...</pre> |
|---|---|

### 5.7.3 Function equivalence list

#### 5.7.3.1 Basic functions

- **caca\_init()**: use [cucul\\_create\\_canvas\(\)](#) to create a *libcucul* canvas, followed by [caca\\_create\\_display\(\)](#) to attach a *libcaca* display to it.
- **caca\_set\_delay()**: use [caca\\_set\\_display\\_time\(\)](#).
- **caca\_get\_feature()**: deprecated.
- **caca\_set\_feature()**: deprecated, see [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_antialias\(\)](#), [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_color\(\)](#) and [cucul\\_set\\_dither\\_mode\(\)](#) instead.
- **caca\_get\_feature\_name()**: deprecated, see [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_mode\\_list\(\)](#), [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_antialias\\_list\(\)](#) and [cucul\\_get\\_dither\\_color\\_list\(\)](#) instead.
- **caca\_get\_rendertime()**: use [caca\\_get\\_display\\_time\(\)](#).
- **caca\_get\_width()**: use [cucul\\_get\\_canvas\\_width\(\)](#).
- **caca\_get\_height()**: use [cucul\\_get\\_canvas\\_height\(\)](#).
- **caca\_set\_window\_title()**: use [caca\\_set\\_display\\_title\(\)](#).
- **caca\_get\_window\_width()**: use [caca\\_get\\_display\\_width\(\)](#).
- **caca\_get\_window\_height()**: use [caca\\_get\\_display\\_height\(\)](#).
- **caca\_refresh()**: use [caca\\_refresh\\_display\(\)](#).
- **caca\_end()**: use [caca\\_free\\_display\(\)](#) to detach the *libcaca* display, followed by [cucul\\_free\\_canvas\(\)](#) to free the underlying *libcucul* canvas.

#### 5.7.3.2 Event handling

- **caca\_get\_event()**: unchanged, but the event information retrieval changed a lot.
- **caca\_wait\_event()**: use [caca\\_get\\_event\(\)](#) with a `timeout` argument of **-1**.
- **caca\_get\_mouse\_x()**: unchanged.
- **caca\_get\_mouse\_y()**: unchanged.

### 5.7.3.3 Character printing

- `caca_set_color()`: use `cucul_set_color_ansi()` or `cucul_set_color_argb()`.
- `caca_get_fg_color()`: use `cucul_get_attr()`.
- `caca_get_bg_color()`: use `cucul_get_attr()`.
- `caca_get_color_name()`: this function is now deprecated due to major uselessness.
- `caca_putchar()`: use `cucul_put_char()`.
- `caca_putstr()`: use `cucul_put_str()`.
- `caca_printf()`: use `cucul_printf()`.
- `caca_clear()`: use `cucul_clear_canvas()`.

**5.7.3.4 Primitives drawing** These functions are almost unchanged, except for Unicode support and the fact that they now act on a given canvas.

- `caca_draw_line()`: use `cucul_draw_line()`.
- `caca_draw_polyline()`: use `cucul_draw_polyline()`.
- `caca_draw_thin_line()`: use `cucul_draw_thin_line()`.
- `caca_draw_thin_polyline()`: use `cucul_draw_thin_polyline()`.
- `caca_draw_circle()`: use `cucul_draw_circle()`.
- `caca_draw_ellipse()`: use `cucul_draw_ellipse()`.
- `caca_draw_thin_ellipse()`: use `cucul_draw_thin_ellipse()`.
- `caca_fill_ellipse()`: use `cucul_fill_ellipse()`.
- `caca_draw_box()`: use `cucul_draw_box()`.
- `caca_draw_thin_box()`: use `cucul_draw_thin_box()` or `cucul_draw_cp437_box()`.
- `caca_fill_box()`: use `cucul_fill_box()`.
- `caca_draw_triangle()`: use `cucul_draw_triangle()`.
- `caca_draw_thin_triangle()`: use `cucul_draw_thin_triangle()`.
- `caca_fill_triangle()`: use `cucul_fill_triangle()`.

### 5.7.3.5 Mathematical functions

- `caca_rand()`: use `cucul_rand()`. The second argument is different, make sure you take that into account.
- `caca_sqrt()`: this function is now deprecated, use your system's `sqrt()` call instead.



**5.7.3.6 Sprite handling** The newly introduced canvases can have several frames. Sprites are hence completely deprecated.

- `caca_load_sprite()`: use `cucul_import_file()`.
- `caca_get_sprite_frames()`: use `cucul_get_frame_count()`.
- `caca_get_sprite_width()`: use `cucul_get_canvas_width()`.
- `caca_get_sprite_height()`: use `cucul_get_canvas_height()`.
- `caca_get_sprite_dx()`: use `cucul_get_canvas_handle_x()`.
- `caca_get_sprite_dy()`: use `cucul_get_canvas_handle_y()`.
- `caca_draw_sprite()`: use `cucul_set_frame()` and `cucul_blit()`.
- `caca_free_sprite()`: use `cucul_free_canvas()`.

**5.7.3.7 Bitmap handling** Bitmaps have been renamed to dithers, because these objects do not in fact store any pixels, they just have information on how bitmaps will be dithered.

- `caca_create_bitmap()`: use `cucul_create_dither()`.
- `caca_set_bitmap_palette()`: use `cucul_set_dither_palette()`.
- `caca_draw_bitmap()`: use `cucul_dither_bitmap()`.
- `caca_free_bitmap()`: use `cucul_free_dither()`.

## 5.7.4 Compilation

The `caca-config` utility is deprecated in favour of the standard `pkg-config` interface:

```
gcc -c foobar.c -o foobar.o `pkg-config --cflags caca`  
gcc foobar.o -o foobar `pkg-config --libs caca`
```

`caca-config` is still provided as a convenience tool but may be removed in the future.

## 5.8 Coding style

### 5.8.1 General guidelines

A pretty safe rule of thumb is: look at what has already been done and try to do the same.

- Tabulations should be avoided and replaced with *eight* spaces.
- Indentation is generally 4 spaces.
- Lines should wrap at most at 79 characters.
- Do not leave whitespace at the end of lines.
- Do not use multiple spaces for anything else than indentation.
- Code qui fait des warnings == code de porc == deux baffes dans ta gueule

### 5.8.2 C coding style

Try to use short names whenever possible (*i* for indices, *w* for width, *cv* for canvas...). Macros are always uppercase, variable and function names are always lowercase. Use the underscore to separate words within names:

```
#define BROKEN 0
#define MAX(x, y) ((x > y) ? (x) : (y))

unsigned int x, y, w, h;
char *font_name;
void frobulate_every_three_seconds(void);
```

`const` is a *suffix*. It's `char const *foo`, not `const char *foo`.

Use spaces after commas and between operators. Do not use spaces after an opening parenthesis or before a closing one:

```
a += 2;
b = (a * (c + d));
x = min(x1, x2, x3);
```

Do not put a space between functions and the corresponding opening parenthesis:

```
int function(int);

if(a == b)
    return;
```

Do not put parentheses around return values:

```
return a + (b & x) + d[10];
```

Opening braces should be on a line of their own, aligned with the current block. Braces are optional for one-liners:

```
int function(int a)
{
    if(a & 0x84)
        return a;

    if(a < 0)
    {
        return -a;
    }
    else
    {
        a /= 2;

        switch(a)
        {
            case 0:
            case 1:
                return -1;
                break;
            default:
                return a;
        }
    }
}
```

### 5.8.3 C++ coding style

Nothing here yet.

## 5.9 A libcucul and libcaca tutorial

Before writing your first libcaca application, you need to know the difference between libcucul and libcaca :

- libcucul is the text rendering library. It will do all the work you actually need. From imports (text, ANSI, caca internal format, all of this supporting n-bytes unicode), to exports (same formats, adding SVG, PostScript, TGA, HTML (both 3 and 4), IRC), it'll cover all your needs.
- libcaca handle everything that can be hardware related. It includes display (RAW, X11, OpenGL, Windows (GDI), conio (DOS), ncurses, slang, text VGA (IMB-Compatible)), keyboard (same drivers but RAW), mouse (same drivers but RAW and VGA), time and resize events (on windowed drivers).

So, you can write a libcucul only program, but you **can't** write a libcaca only program, it'll be nonsense. Period.

First, a working program, very simple, to check you can compile and run it :

```
#include <cucul.h>
#include <caca.h>

int main(void)
{
    /* Initialise libcaca */
    cucul_canvas_t *cv; caca_display_t *dp; caca_event_t ev;
    cv = cucul_create_canvas(0, 0);
    dp = caca_create_display(cv);
    /* Set window title */
    caca_set_display_title(dp, "Hello!");
    /* Choose drawing colours */
    cucul_set_color_ansi(cv, CUCUL_BLACK, CUCUL_WHITE);
    /* Draw a string at coordinates (0, 0) */
    cucul_putstr(cv, 0, 0, "This is a message");
    /* Refresh display */
    caca_refresh_display(dp);
    /* Wait for a key press event */
    caca_get_event(dp, CACA_EVENT_KEY_PRESS, &ev, -1);
    /* Clean up library */
    caca_free_display(dp);
    cucul_free_canvas(cv);

    return 0;
}
```

What does it do ? (we skip variable definitions, guessing you have a brain) :

- Create a cucul canvas. A canvas is where everything happens. Writing characters, sprites, strings, images, everything. It is mandatory and is the reason of libcucul's being. Size is there a width of 0 pixels, and a height of 0 pixels. It'll be resized according to contents you put in it.
- Create a caca display. This is basically the window. Physically it can be a window (most of the displays), a console (ncurses, slang) or a real display (VGA).
- Set the window name of our display (only available in windowed displays, does nothing otherwise). (so this is libcaca related)

- Set current colors to black background, and white foreground of our canvas (so this is libcucul related)
- Put a string "This is a message" with current colors in our libcucul canvas.
- Refresh our caca display, which was firstly attached to our canvas
- Wait for an event of type "CACA\_EVENT\_KEY\_PRESS", which seems obvious.
- Free display (release memory)
- Free canvas (release memory and close window if any)

You can then compile this code under UNIX-like systems with following command : (you'll need pkg-config and gcc)

```
gcc `pkg-config --libs --cflags cucul caca` example.c -o example
```

## 5.10 Environment variables

Some environment variables can be used to change the behaviour of *libcaca* without having to modify the program which uses them. These variables are:

- **CACA\_DRIVER:** set the backend video driver. In order of preference:
  - `conio` uses the DOS `conio.h` interface.
  - `ncurses` uses the `ncurses` library.
  - `slang` uses the S-Lang library.
  - `x11` uses the native X11 driver.
  - `gl` uses `freeglut` and `opengl` libraries.
  - `raw` outputs to the standard output instead of rendering the canvas. This is can be used together with `cacaserver`.
- **CACA\_GEOMETRY:** set the video display size. The format of this variable must be `XxY`, with `X` and `Y` being integer values. This option currently works with the `raw`, `X11` and `GL` drivers.
- **CACA\_FONT:** set the rendered font. The format of this variable is implementation dependent, but since it currently only works with the `X11` driver, an `X11` font name such as `fixed` or `5x7` is expected.

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